

SPINE-TINGLING TALES OF MYSTERY AND SUSPENSE

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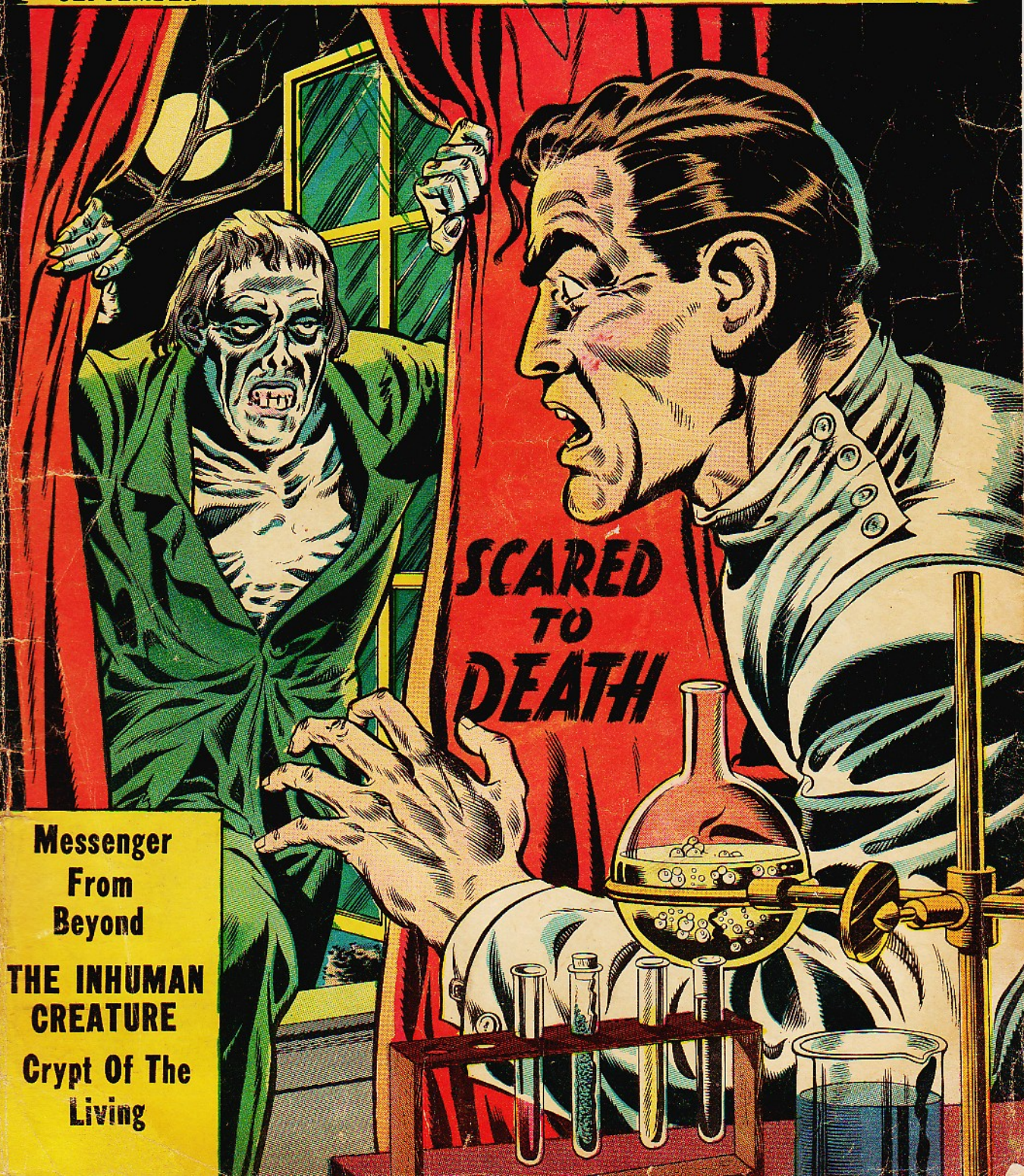
QUALITY
COMIC
PUBLICATION

WEB OF EVIL

10¢

SEPTEMBER

No. 18



**SCARED
TO
DEATH**

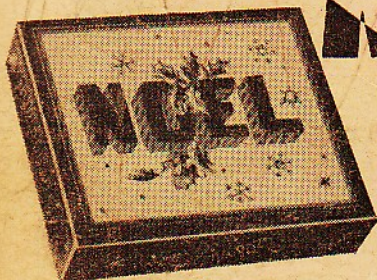
**Messenger
From
Beyond**

**THE INHUMAN
CREATURE
Crypt Of The
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FEATURE CHRISTMAS ASSORTMENT
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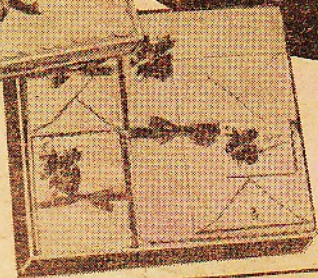
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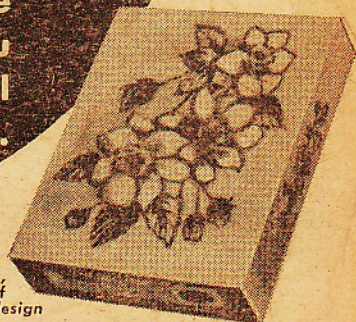
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THE GHOSTS THAT LURKED BEHIND THE CLOAK OF DEATH REQUIRED A MORTAL MAN THROUGH WHICH TO REAP THEIR VENGEANCE UPON THE LIVING! THUS IT WAS THAT HOODLUM ZERO MARTIN BECAME THE EMISSARY OF THE GHOULS BEYOND THE GRAVE! AND SOON, HE SOUGHT TO DOUBLE CROSS THE SPECTRES OF DEATH AND CAME TO RUE THE DAY HE AGREED TO BECOME...

The **MESSENGER** from BEYOND

WE WILL HAVE OUR VENGEANCE, ZERO MARTIN! NO MORTAL CAN CHEAT WE WHO REIGN IN THE BEYOND!

HA, HA, HA...
SAVE THAT LINE FOR FOOLS, YOU CREEP!
YOU CAN'T TOUCH ME
UNLESS I *WILL*
YOU MY SOUL! AND
I'M NOT IN A
BARGAINING
MOOD!





A FURTIVE MAN CREEPS DOWN A DARK ALLEY. NERVOUSLY, HE KNOCKS UPON A STEEL DOOR!

BIG EDDIE'S GOTTA TAKE ME IN WHEN HE SEES THIS! HE CAN'T LAUGH AT ME ANY MORE... NOBODY CAN LAUGH AT ME AGAIN!



ZERO! YOU TWO-BIT HEISTER... THE BOSS TOLD YOU TO STAY CLEAR OF THIS JOINT! MAYBE YER LOOKIN' FOR SOME LUMPS, SQUIRT!

NO, NO, JOEY! I REALLY GOT SOMETHING BIG TO SHOW EDDIE! LOOK! IT'S GOLD, JOEY! GOLD!



THUS, THE HUMAN WEASEL OF THE UNDERWORLD IS ADMITTED! HIS EYES ARE WIDE WITH PRIDE AS HE REVEALS HIS SHINING POSSESSION!

I BUSTED IT OUTA THE GLASS EXHIBITION CASE IN THE FEDERAL BUILDING, BIG EDDIE! A GUARD ALMOST PLUGGED ME BUT I GOT AWAY! THE SIGN SAID IT'S SOLID GOLD! IT MUST BE WORTH TWENTY, THIRTY GRAND!

T-THE GOLD MODEL OF THE FIRST AIRMAIL PLANE!



AM I IN, BIG EDDIE... AM I IN? NOW, DO I GET TO WORK WITH YOUR BOYS?



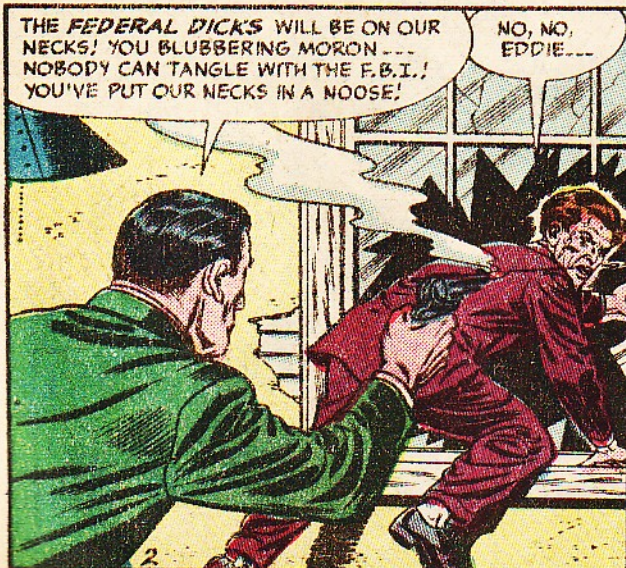
GOVERNMENT PROPERTY! THE CREEP'S ROBBED UNCLE SAM! GET ME A ROD! SOMEBODY GET ME A ROD! PERSONALLY, I'M GONNA KISS THIS STUMBLE BUM WITH A SLUG!

YA, EDDIE!

BAM!

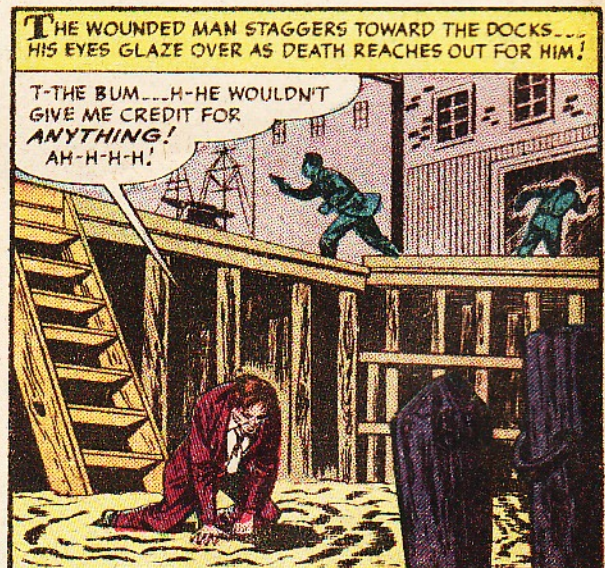
BAM!

YIIIIII!



THE FEDERAL DICKS WILL BE ON OUR NECKS! YOU BLUBBERING MORON... NOBODY CAN TANGLE WITH THE F.B.I.! YOU'VE PUT OUR NECKS IN A NOOSE!

NO, NO, EDDIE...



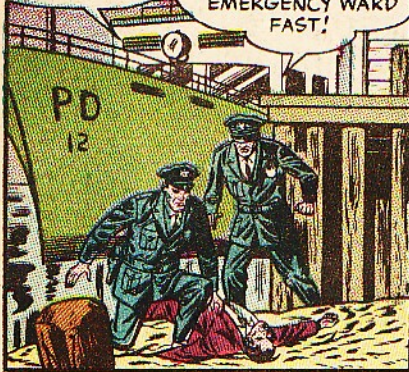
THE WOUNDED MAN STAGGERS TOWARD THE DOCKS... HIS EYES GLAZE OVER AS DEATH REACHES OUT FOR HIM!

T-THE BUM...H-HE WOULDN'T GIVE ME CREDIT FOR ANYTHING! AH-H-H-H!

BUT AS THE HOURS PASS THE GRIM REAPER IS KEPT AT ARMS LENGTH WHILE ZERO MARTIN FIGHTS FOR LIFE! FINALLY...

IT'S THAT CHEAP HOOD, ZERO MARTIN!

SUFFERING HANNAH! SOMEBODY'S SHOT HIM UP BAD! LET'S GET HIM TO THE EMERGENCY WARD FAST!



LATER...

TOO LATE... HIS HEART'S STOPPED! HE'S A DEAD MAN, DOCTOR!



A MIRACLE HE LIVED SO LONG! NURSE! A HYPODERMIC NEEDLE AND ADRENALIN! I'M GOING TO INJECT IT INTO THIS MAN'S HEART AND HOPE FOR ANOTHER MIRACLE!

THE POWERFUL HEART TONIC IS INJECTED! FIVE...TEN...TWENTY SECONDS PASS! SUDDENLY, THE EYES OF THE THIEF "SEE" AGAIN!

W-WHERE AM I? YIIIIII! W-WHO ARE YOU? WHAT ARE YOU?

WE ARE DEAD MEN, ZERO! YOU ARE ALSO DEAD...FOR YOU HAVE PASSED THE BOUNDARIES OF LIFE AND JOINED US!



I-I'M DEAD? T-THAT BULLET... BIG EDDIE KILLED ME!

YES, BUT YOU ARE MORE FORTUNATE THEN WE, ZERO! TWO DOCTORS EVEN NOW SEEK TO BRING YOU BACK TO LIFE!

WE CAN RELEASE YOU, ZERO...BUT ONLY IF YOU PROMISE TO DO OUR BIDDING ON EARTH! WE EACH HAVE A SCORE TO SETTLE THERE!



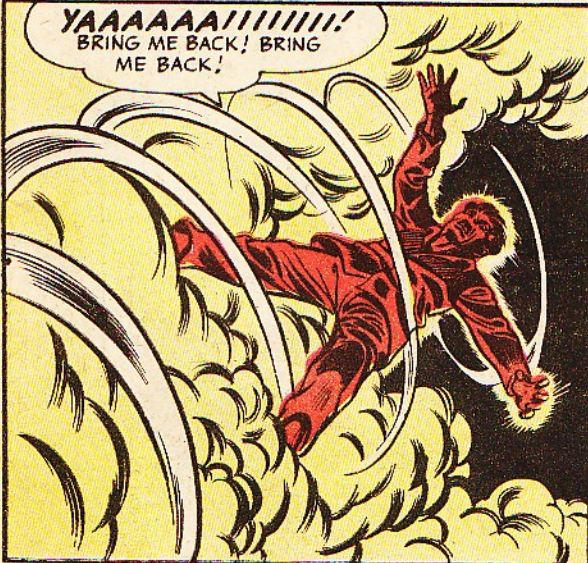
IF WE LET YOU RETURN DO YOU SWEAR TO OBEY OUR EVERY COMMAND WHEN YOU LIVE AGAIN?

YES, YES, ANYTHING! I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR YOU! IN THE NAME OF MERCY LET ME LIVE AGAIN! I-I DON'T BELONG HERE... LET ME LIVE!

THE PACT IS MADE! RELEASE HIM!



YAAAAAAH!!!!!! BRING ME BACK! BRING ME BACK!

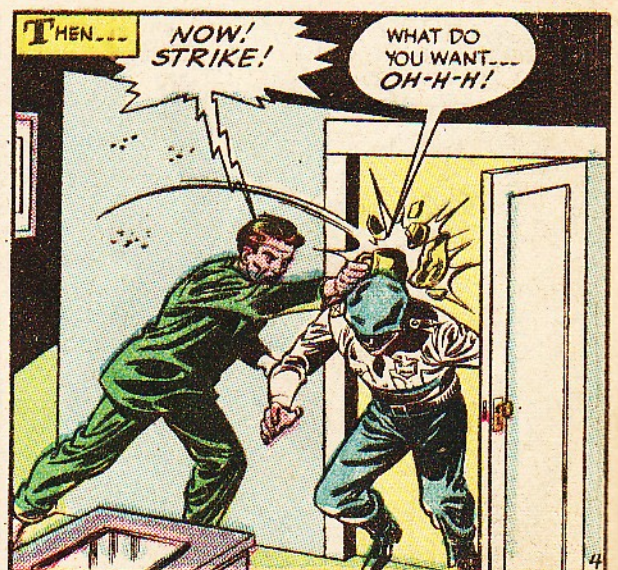
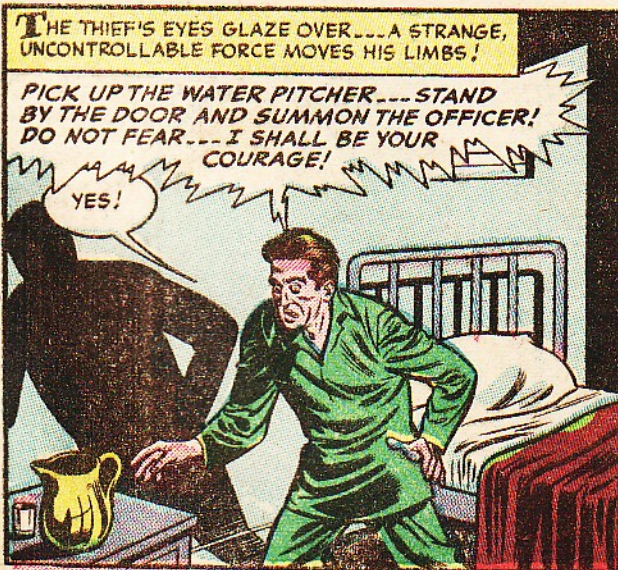
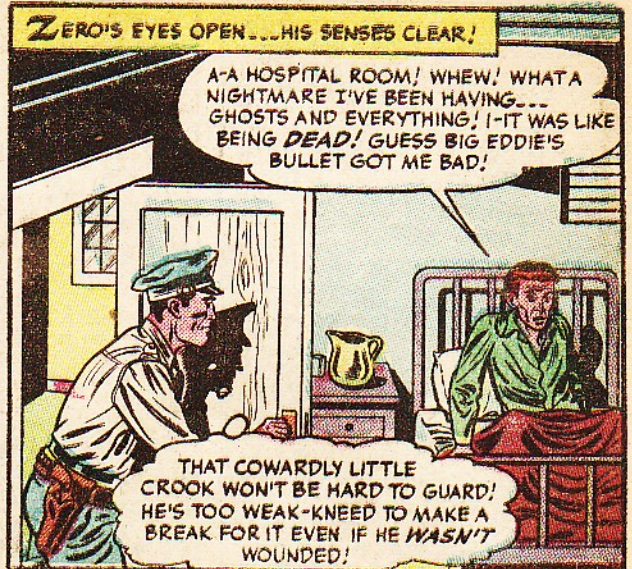
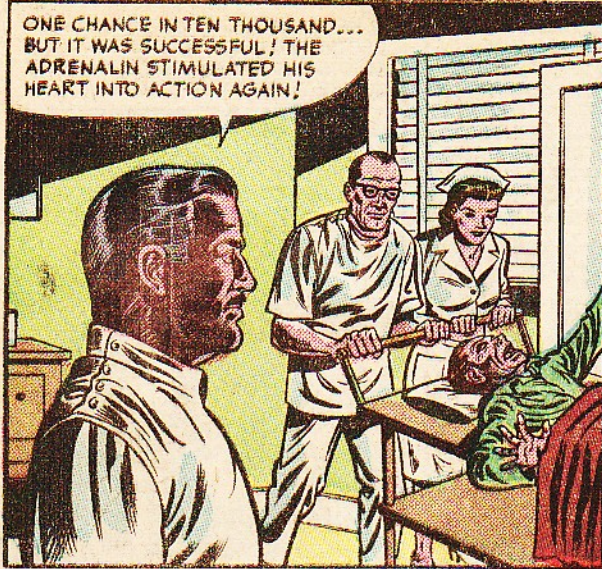


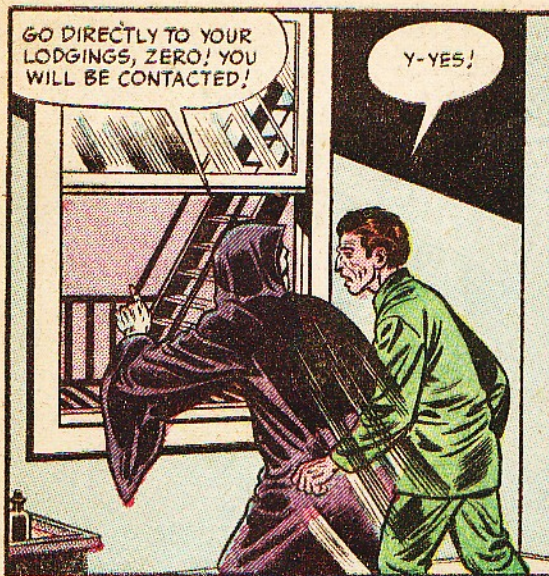
SIXTY SECONDS, DOCTOR KEATS!

GREAT HEAVENS! YOU'VE DONE IT, DOCTOR KEATS! HE'S BREATHING AGAIN!

...BACK... BRING ME BACK!







GO DIRECTLY TO YOUR LODGINGS, ZERO! YOU WILL BE CONTACTED!

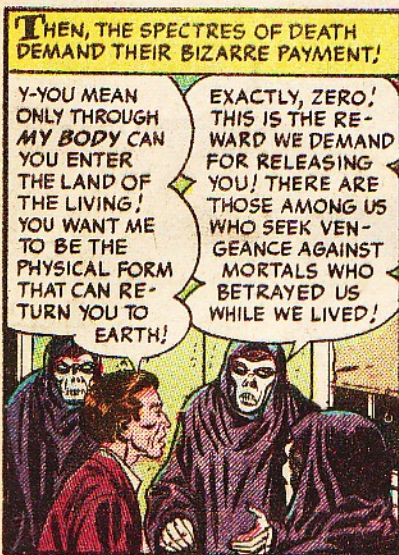
Y-YES!



FEAR SNAPPING AT HIS HEELS, ZERO DASHES THROUGH THE STREETS TOWARD HOME AND...

WHA...?

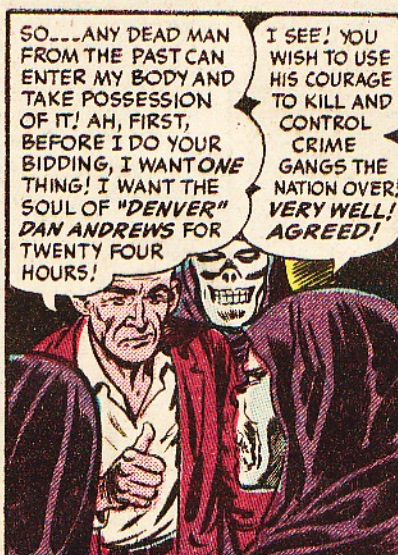
DO NOT BE FRIGHTENED, MY FRIEND! REMEMBER, YOU TOO HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE DEAD! THAT IS WHY YOU ALONE ARE ABLE TO SEE AND HEAR US, YOUR COLLEAGUES FROM THE BEYOND!



THEN, THE SPECTRES OF DEATH DEMAND THEIR BIZARRE PAYMENT!

Y-YOU MEAN ONLY THROUGH MY BODY CAN YOU ENTER THE LAND OF THE LIVING! YOU WANT ME TO BE THE PHYSICAL FORM THAT CAN RETURN YOU TO EARTH!

EXACTLY, ZERO! THIS IS THE REWARD WE DEMAND FOR RELEASING YOU! THERE ARE THOSE AMONG US WHO SEEK VENGEANCE AGAINST MORTALS WHO BETRAYED US WHILE WE LIVED!



SO...ANY DEAD MAN FROM THE PAST CAN ENTER MY BODY AND TAKE POSSESSION OF IT! AH, FIRST, BEFORE I DO YOUR BIDDING, I WANT ONE THING! I WANT THE SOUL OF "DENVER" DAN ANDREWS FOR TWENTY FOUR HOURS!

I SEE! YOU WISH TO USE HIS COURAGE TO KILL AND CONTROL CRIME GANGS THE NATION OVER! VERY WELL! AGREED!



AN EERIE WAIL PIERCES ZERO'S QUARTERS! SOON AFTER, THE NATION'S MOST INFAMOUS CRIME CZAR OF THE PAST ENTERS!

"DENVER"! I NEED YOU INSIDE ME TO GIVE ME COURAGE TO BECOME A BIG SHOT! BOY! WILL I SHOW THOSE MUGS WITH YOUR NERVE INSIDE ME!

OKAY, ZERO, RELAX! I CAN'T ENTER YOUR COWARDLY BODY UNLESS YOU WILL IT! CONCENTRATE...CONCENTRATE WITH WHAT FEW WITS YOU HAVE!



COME ON, "DENVER", WITH YOU OPERATING THINGS I'LL SHOW BIG EDDIE A THING OR TWO! HA! I'LL BE BOSS OF THIS TOWN!

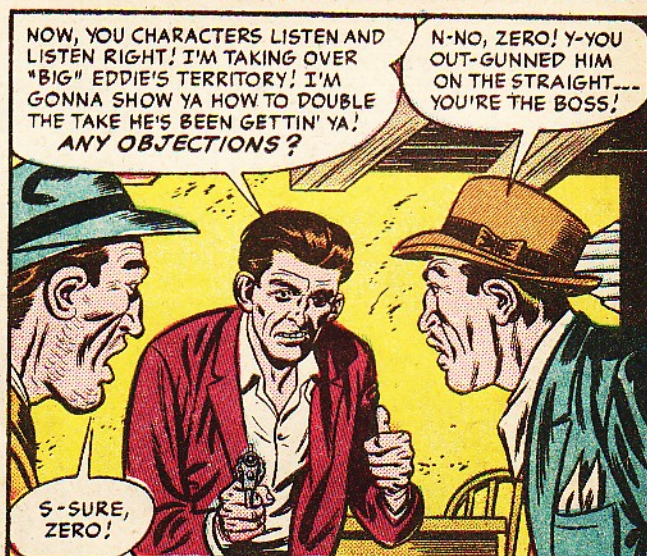
THEN, A VICIOUS FLAME SPARKLES IN ZERO'S EYES! HIS JAW JUTS OUT, HIS CHEST SWELLS... HE IS GANG LEADER, "DENVER" DAN ANDREWS!

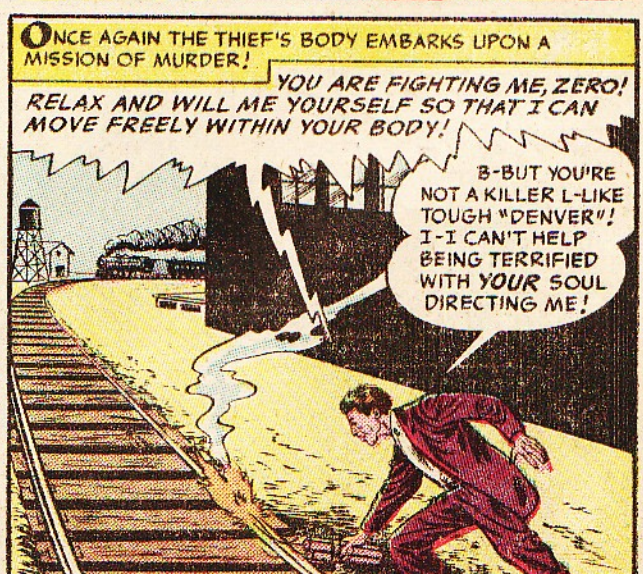
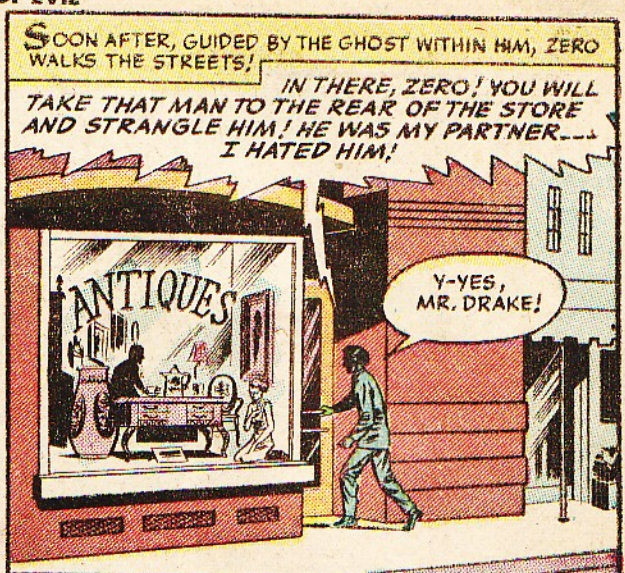


REMEMBER, ZERO, TWENTY FOUR HOURS ONLY! WE HAVE MUCH TO DO!

DON'T WORRY, BOYS! WHAT I GOT TO DO WILL BE SHORT AND QUICK, YEAH! NOBODY'S GONNA STAND UP AGAINST "DENVER" DAN ANDREWS FOR LONG!

ONCE AGAIN ZERO MARTIN KNOCKS UPON THE GRIMY STEEL DOOR... BUT THIS TIME HIS EYES BLAZE WITH THE MEMORY OF A HUNDRED GANGLAND KILLINGS!





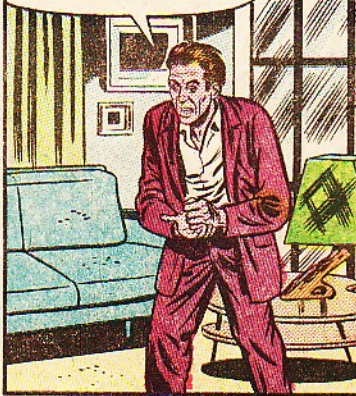
THEN, THE JOB IS DONE AND ZERO STAGGERS HOMEWARD STRICKEN WITH FEAR!

HA, HA! SEE YOU AGAIN, ZERO!

I-I'M ICE COLD WITH PANIC! I-I CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS! W-WITHOUT "DENVERS" NERVE I'M AFRAID TO KILL! T-THEY'LL KEEP HOUNDING ME TO DO THEIR MURDERS FOREVER! M-MUST GET HOME...FIGURE A WAY OUT!



OF COURSE! I'VE BEEN A FOOL! THEY CAN'T HARM ME...THEY TOLD ME THEMSELVES THAT THEY MUST HAVE MY WILL OR THEY CAN'T ENTER MY BODY! I CAN DEFY THEM! THEY HAVE NO HUMAN FORM!



HA, HA, HO, HO! I'M FREE... I'M A BIG SHOT JUST LIKE "DENVER" WAS AND NOTHING CAN HARM ME NOW!

AH, I SEE YOU ARE HAPPY, ZERO! THAT IS WELL FOR WE HAVE ANOTHER JOB FOR YOU TO DO! I, PAUL CARLSON, WISH TO KILL A MAN!



NO MORE JOBS FOR YOU GHOULS! HA, HA! I'M TAKING NO MORE ORDERS FROM THE GRAVE! FROM NOW ON I'M LIVING MY OWN LIFE AS BOSS OF THE UNDERWORLD! GET OUT!

SO! YOU WOULD BETRAY YOUR FRIENDS FROM THE BEYOND!



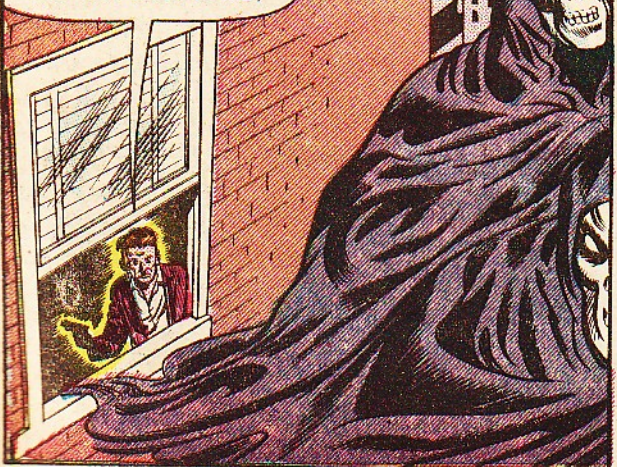
THAT'S RIGHT, YOU FLIMSY FRAGMENTS FROM THE DEAD! HA, HA! GO BACK TO YOUR COFFINS! YOU CAN'T POSSESS ME UNLESS I WILL IT!

THAT'S TRUE, ZERO, BUT WE SHALL FIND A MEANS OF VENGEANCE!



THAT'S RIGHT, PUNK! HEH, HEH! I NEVER TOOK A DOUBLE CROSS WITHOUT PAYING IT BACK! BE SEEING YA, ZERO!

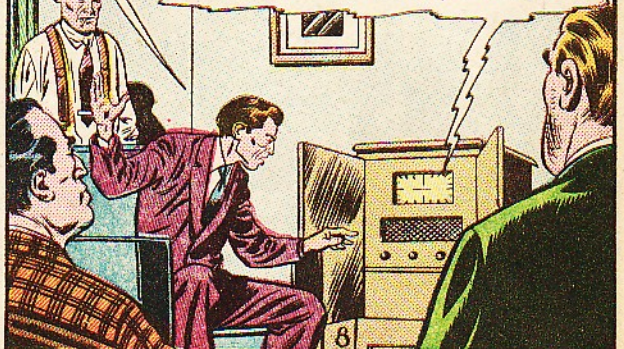
BLUFFING! THEY'RE BLUFFING... THEY'RE JUST TRYING TA SCARE ME! SURE! IF I DON'T SCARE THEY CAN'T TOUCH ME!



THE DAYS PASS AND ZERO RIDES THE TIDE OF BLOOD-SHED OVER HIS EMPIRE OF CRIME! THEN, ONE EVENING...

SHUT UP! LISTEN!

...AND DOCTOR KEATS HAS JUST INJECTED ADRENALIN INTO THE DEAD ACCIDENT VICTIM IN THE HOPES OF REPEATING THE REMARKABLE BACK-TO-LIFE OPERATION HE PERFORMED ON THE ESCAPED CRIMINAL, ZERO MARTIN!



ANXIOUS MEDICAL MEN AWAIT THE RESULTS OF THE OPERATION ON CARL THOMPSON AT CITY HOSPITAL....

A-ANOTHER GUY... WHO MIGHT COME BACK TO LIFE LIKE *I DID!* "DENVER" DAN... THAT'S WHAT HE MUST BE PLANNING... HE FIGURES ON ENTERING ANOTHER BODY THAT'S SEEN DEATH A-AND USE IT TO GET EVEN WITH *ME!* I-I GOTTA MAKE SURE THAT GUY... *DIES!*

SWIFTLY, ZERO MAKES HIS WAY TO CITY HOSPITAL... BUT AS HE BURSTS INTO THE VICTIM'S ROOM!

"D-DENVER!"

HEH, HEH! HELLO, ZERO! I'LL BE JOINING YOU SOON... WHEN I POSSESS MY EARTHLI BODY!

NO, NO! I'LL KILL HIM FIRST! GET OUT... GET OUT OF THE WAY, NURSE!

OH-H-H!

SUDDENLY...

TOO LATE, ZERO!

YEOW!

DIE! DIE!

FIRST, THE DEAD MUST HAVE THEIR VENGEANCE, ZERO! THERE... IS... ENOUGH STRENGTH... IN... THIS MISERABLE BODY...

...TO FINISH YOU... ARRRRRGH!

G-GREAT HEAVENS! DOCTOR! DOCTOR!

AND LATER, THOSE OF THE LIVING CAN ONLY VENTURE WILD SPECULATION AS TO THE TRAGIC END OF TWO MEN WHO DIED TWICE!

DEAD... BOTH OF THEM! GOOD GRIEF, DOCTOR, THE *TWO MEN* YOU SAVED FROM DEATH KILLED EACH OTHER!

F-FANTASTIC! I-IT'S ALMOST AS IF THEIR SCANT MINUTES IN THE WORLD BEYOND... CURSED THEM BOTH!

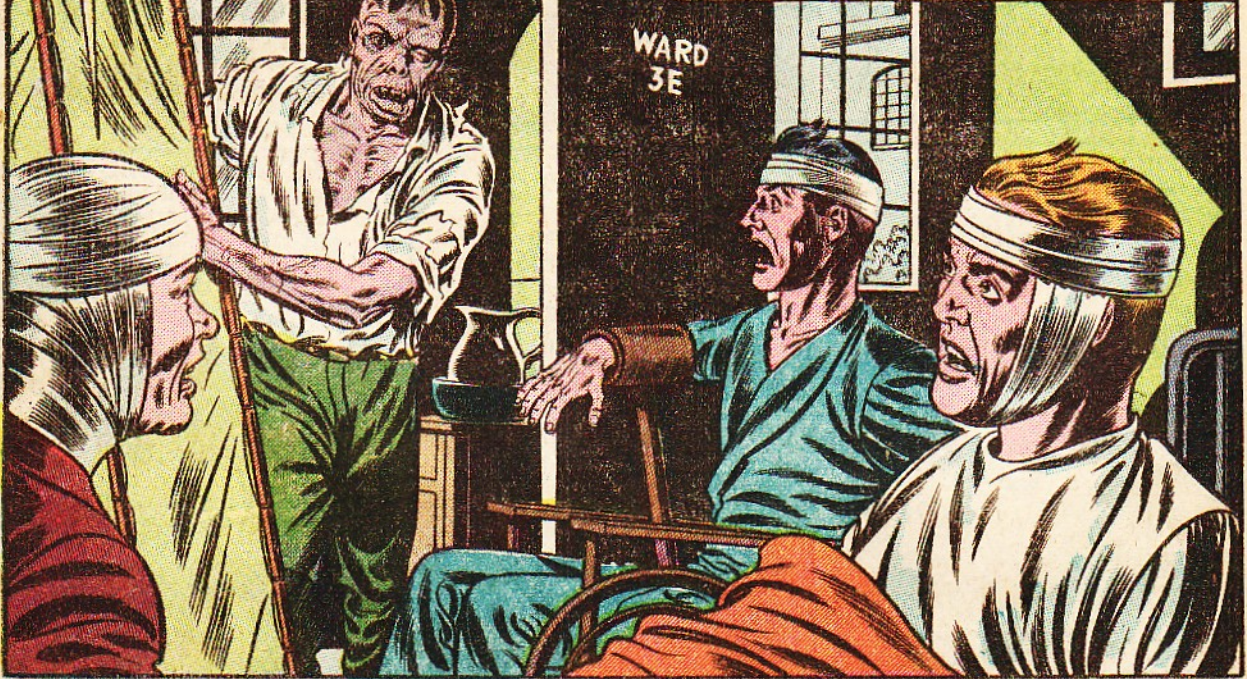
SCARED To DEATH

IT *IS* BRADBURY... HE'S RETURNED FROM THE DEAD! W-WE DIDN'T MEAN TO HARM YOU... HONEST!

HE, HE, HE... HAVE NO FEAR, GENTLEMEN! WE ARE ALL ONE AND THE SAME... NOW!

THEY ONLY MEANT TO FRIGHTEN HIM... TO TEACH HIM THE FOLLY OF HIS BELIEF IN THE SUPERNATURAL! BUT WHEN GUY BRADBURY'S FRIENDS UNLEASHED THEIR GRUESOME LITTLE TRICK THEY SET OFF A CHAIN OF EVENTS THAT WERE TO HAUNT THEIR LIVES FOREVER!

WARD
3E



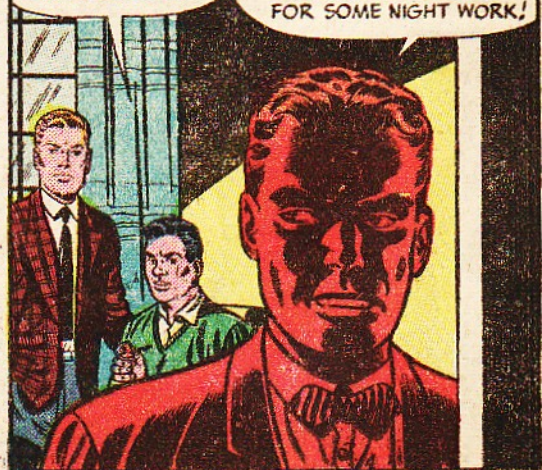
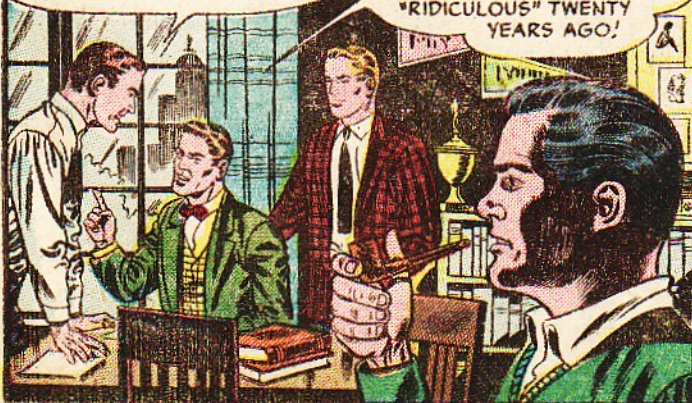
IN A COLLEGE DORMITORY A DISCUSSION BETWEEN MEDICAL STUDENTS DEVELOPS INTO A HEATED ARGUMENT!

NONSENSE! IT'S ABSOLUTELY RIDICULOUS, BRADBURY! THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS THE... THE *SUPERNATURAL*!

ANYTHING THAT HASN'T BEEN DISPROVEN IS POSSIBLE, WILLIAMS! THE THOUGHT OF AN A-BOMB WOULD HAVE BEEN BRANDED "RIDICULOUS" TWENTY YEARS AGO!

YOU'RE AN INSULT TO THE PROFESSION YOU ARE STUDYING FOR BRADBURY!

YOU AND DENNING ARE AS BLIND AS WILLIAMS, KENT! I'M GOING TO EAT AND THEN GO TO THE LAB FOR SOME NIGHT WORK!



WEB OF EVIL

THE FOOL BRADBURY! IF THERE WAS ONLY SOME WAY TO SNAP HIM TO HIS SENSES!

NIGHT WORK! THAT CHARACTER HAS HIS NOSE IN A TEST TUBE SO MUCH IT'S BEGINNING TO AFFECT HIS BRAIN! SAY... THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA!

WHAT IS IT, WILLIAMS?

WE'RE GOING TO MAKE BRADBURY FEEL LIKE AN IDIOT... AND HAVE A FEW LAUGHS TO BOOT! C'MON... I'LL TELL YOU ON THE WAY TO THE LAB! WE HAVE TO BEAT BRADBURY THERE!

SHORTLY, IN THE LABORATORY MORTUARY!

HO, HO, HO... WHAT A GAG, WILLIAMS! I WISH WE COULD BE AROUND TO SEE THE EXPRESSION ON BRADBURY'S FACE WHEN HE OPENS THAT REFRIGERATOR DOOR!

HURRY UP, YOU TWO! HE'LL BE COMING IN HERE FROM EATING SOON!

THIS SHOULD DO THE TRICK! HOW'S IT COMING, KENT?

WE'LL BE FINISHED IN A MINUTE! HEY... LIFT IT UP SOME MORE SO I CAN GET THE HOOK ON THIS WIRE, DENNING!

OKAY! OKAY! THIS THING IS HEAVY!

HEY... SOMEONE'S COMING DOWN THE CORRIDOR! IT'S PROBABLY BRADBURY!

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE AND BACK TO THE DORM ON THE DOUBLE! IF WE WERE CAUGHT DOING THIS WE COULD BE EXPELLED!

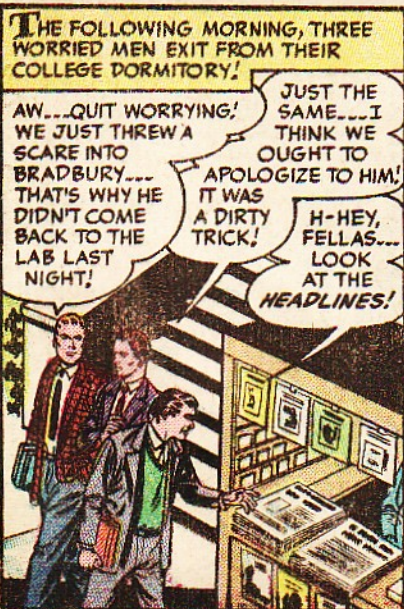
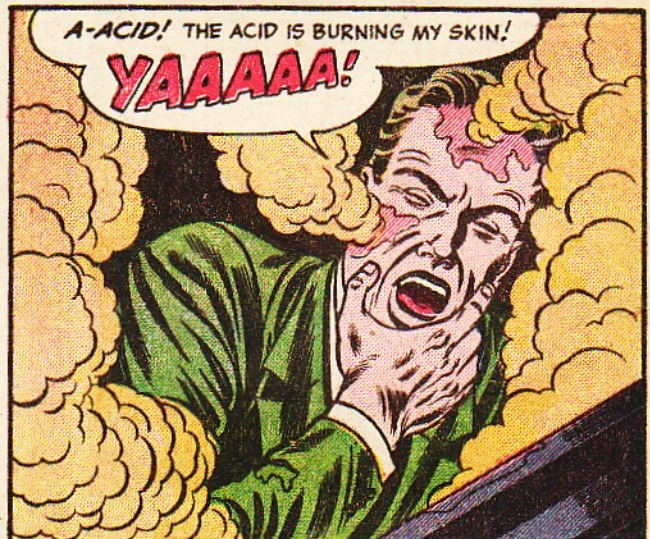
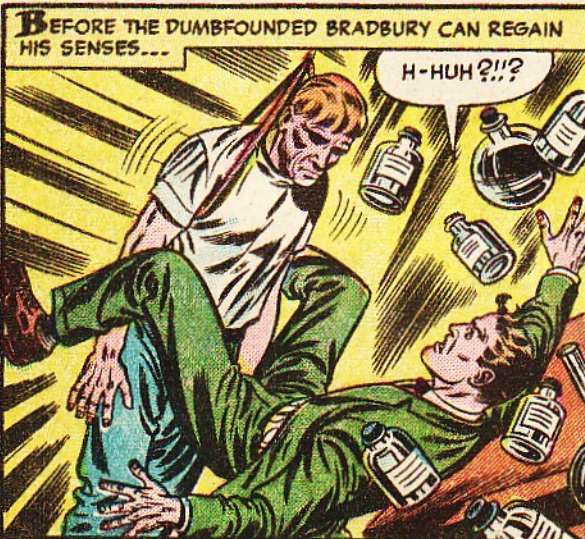
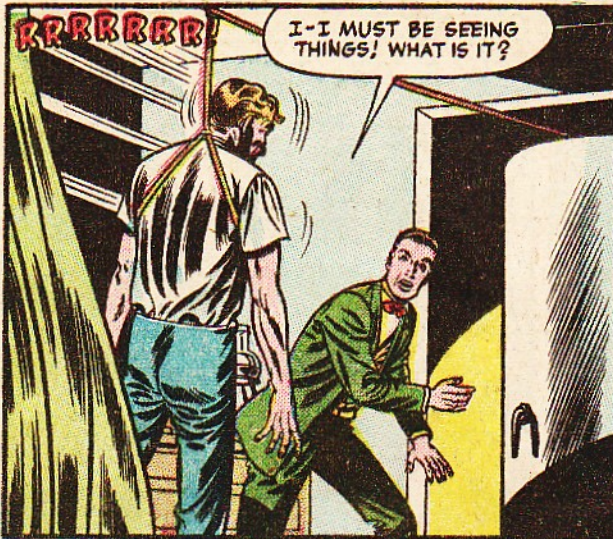
MOMENTS LATER, MEDICAL STUDENT GUY BRADBURY ENTERS THE LAB!

AH... I'VE GOT THE PLACE TO MYSELF TONIGHT! PERHAPS I CAN COMPLETE THOSE EXPERIMENTS I'VE BEEN MAKING!

THEN, AS BRADBURY STEPS BEFORE THE REFRIGERATOR...

I HOPE NOBODY'S MEDDLED WITH THE TEST TUBES! IF THEY WERE TAKEN FROM THE REFRIGERATOR THEN MY ENTIRE EXPERIMENT WILL FAIL! W-WHAT THE...

RRRRRR



THE YEARS PASS... AND THE TRIO'S GREAT SECRET IS WELL KEPT! THEN, ONE AFTERNOON AS DOCTOR WILLIAMS WORKS LATE AT HIS OFFICE...

HMM, I'D BETTER CHECK THIS CHEST X-RAY OF MR. JOHNSON'S AGAIN... DIDN'T LOOK JUST RIGHT!



SUDDENLY...
YAAA!

HEL-LO, WILLIAMS... ARE YOU SHOCKED TO SEE ME! PERHAPS YOU CAN'T RECOGNIZE ME NOW... BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW MY VOICE!



G-GREAT HORRORS! BRADBURY! GUY BRADBURY... NO, NO! IT CAN'T BE!

AH, BUT IT IS, DEAR FRIEND! YOU SCOFFED AT MY THEORIES OF THE SUPERNATURAL WHEN I WAS AMONG THE LIVING! HEH, HEH! HOW DO YOU FEEL NOW, WILLIAMS?



YOU SEE IT IS *TRUE!* I HAVE COME BACK FROM THE GRAVE... I HAVE BROKEN THROUGH THE BARRIER OF THE SUPERNATURAL!

OH, GOOD HEAVENS... MERCY, MERCY... I-I MUST BE GOING MAD!



STOP! STOP! T-THE ULTRAVIOLET RAY LIGHT... I-IT'S BURNING MY SKIN... YOU'LL SEAR ME TO DEATH... YIIII!

HEE, HEE, HEE! HOW YOU SQUIRM, DEAR FRIEND!



TWO HOURS LATER, DOCTOR WILLIAMS FEEBLY KNOCKS THE PHONE FROM ITS CRADLE AND...

JOHN, JOHN... GET ME AN AMBULANCE... H-HE'S COME BACK! GUY BRADBURY... HAS... COME BACK TO... KILL US ALL... AH-H-H-H!

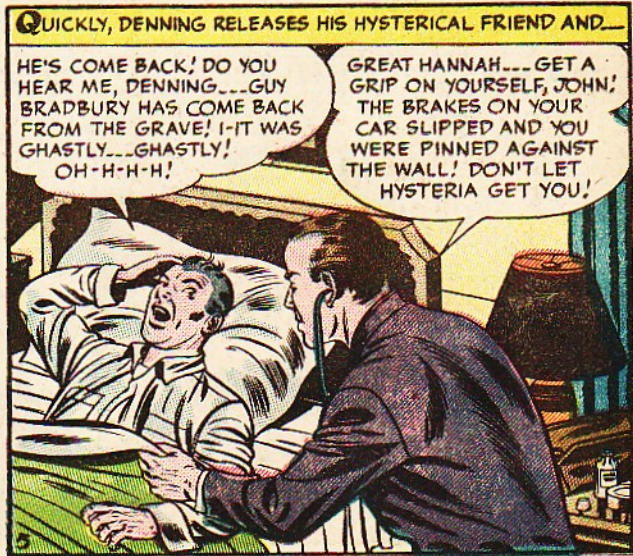
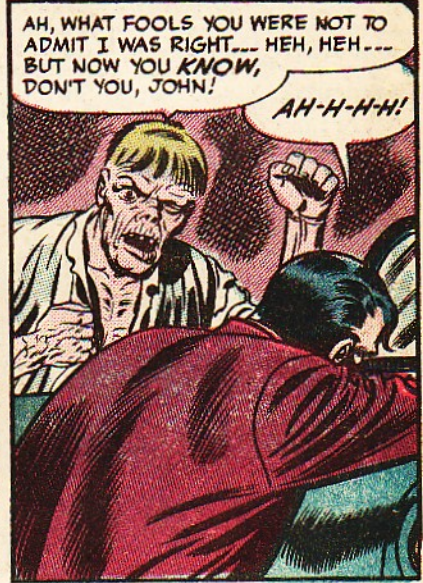
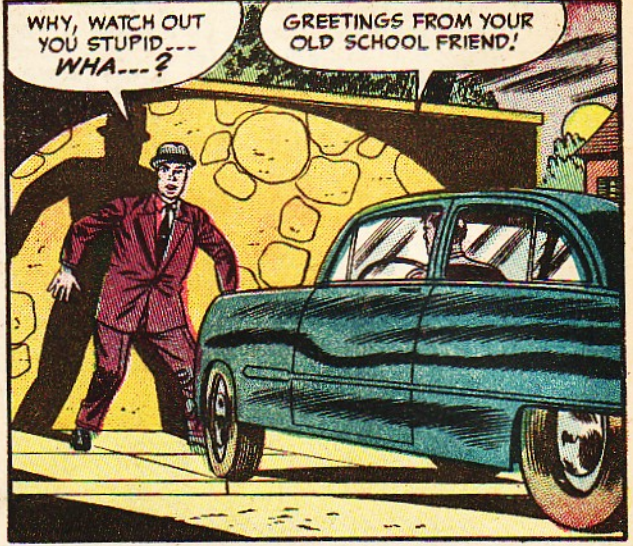


SO IT IS THAT SOON AFTER DOCTORS JOHN KENT AND HAROLD DENNING DISCUSS THE SAD PLIGHT OF THEIR DEAR FRIEND!

GOOD GRIEF, WHAT A SHOCK! AFTER ALL THESE YEARS POOR WILLIAMS HAS TO FALL VICTIM TO HIS CONSCIENCE! IMAGINE... BELIEVING THAT HE SAW GUY BRADBURY IN HIS OFFICE!

POOR FELLOW... HE'S GONE QUITE OUT OF HIS HEAD FROM THINKING OF OUR HIDEOUS JOKE YEARS AGO! IT WAS A MIRACLE HE DIDN'T KILL HIMSELF AFTER FALLING INTO THAT ULTRAVIOLET RAY LIGHT!





WEB OF EVIL

NO, SOCIETY DOES NOT BELIEVE SUCH FANTASY... AND NEITHER DOES DOCTOR HAROLD DENNING AS HE LEAVES THE HOSPITAL SOME TIME LATER!

UTTERLY FANTASTIC... BOTH WILLIAMS AND KENT CRACKING AT THE SAME TIME! THANK HEAVENS MY MIND IS SOUND! BRADBURY'S DEATH YEARS BACK WAS ALL AN ACCIDENT... I-I DON'T FEEL TO BLAME FOR IT!

AH, BUT IT WAS YOUR FAULT, DENNING! AFTER ALL, IT WAS YOUR GROTESQUE TRICK THAT SHATTERED MY NERVES AND CAUSED MY DEATH!

NO, NO!

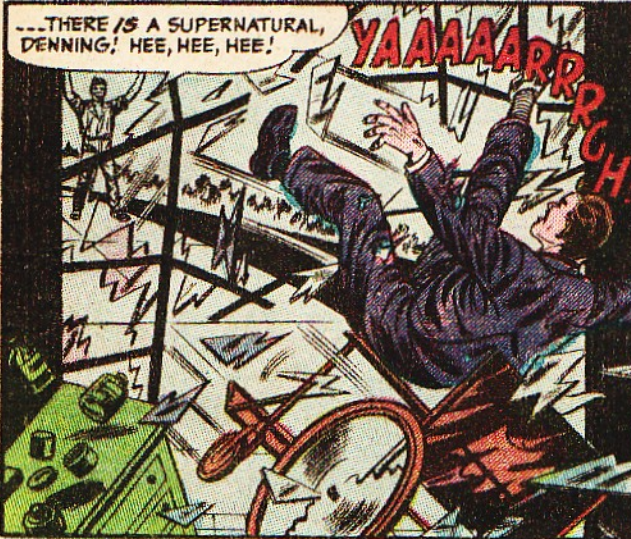
YIIIIII!
D-DON'T TOUCH ME... YOU'RE DEAD... DEAD!

QUITE DEAD, DEAR HAROLD! DON'T YOU SEE, I COULDN'T FIND PEACE IN THE GREAT BEYOND UNTIL I HAD PROVEN MY POINT TO YOU ALL...



...THERE IS A SUPERNATURAL, DENNING! HEE, HEE, HEE!

YAAAAARRRR!

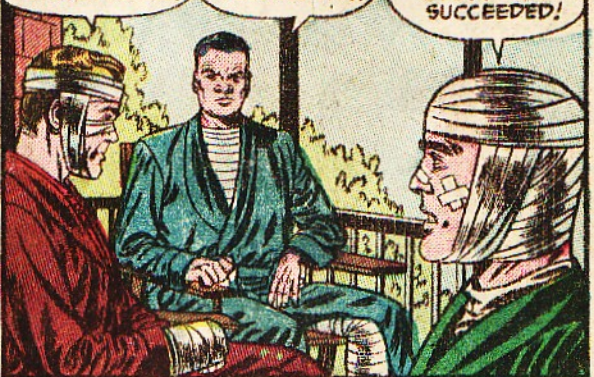


THUS, THE THREE MEN OF MEDICINE HAVE ANOTHER SECRET TO KEEP! LATER, AS THEIR HEALTH IMPROVES...

THE FIEND! HE RETURNED FROM THE GRAVE TO DEFORM US ALL!

YOU AND YOUR IDIOTIC JOKE, WILLIAMS! WE DESERVE THIS!

YES... HE WANTED US TO SUFFER AS HE DID! I-I GUESS HE'S SUCCEEDED!



IT WAS WEEKS LATER WHEN THE POLICE CAME UPON A RAVING MADMAN ON THE CITY STREETS...

HO, HO... HA, HA, HA! I TRICKED THEM... I TRICKED THEM ALL! THEY... HO, HO... ACTUALLY BELIEVED I RETURNED FROM THE DEAD!

W-WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT GUY!

HE SOUNDS NUTS? HEY... YOU ALL RIGHT, MISTER?



I'M... SO CLEVER! YOU SEE... I PLACED MY IDENTIFICATION ON THE CORPSE IN THE LAB THAT NIGHT AND THREW IT IN THE RIVER! THEY... THOUGHT I HAD KILLED MYSELF... HA, HA, HA...

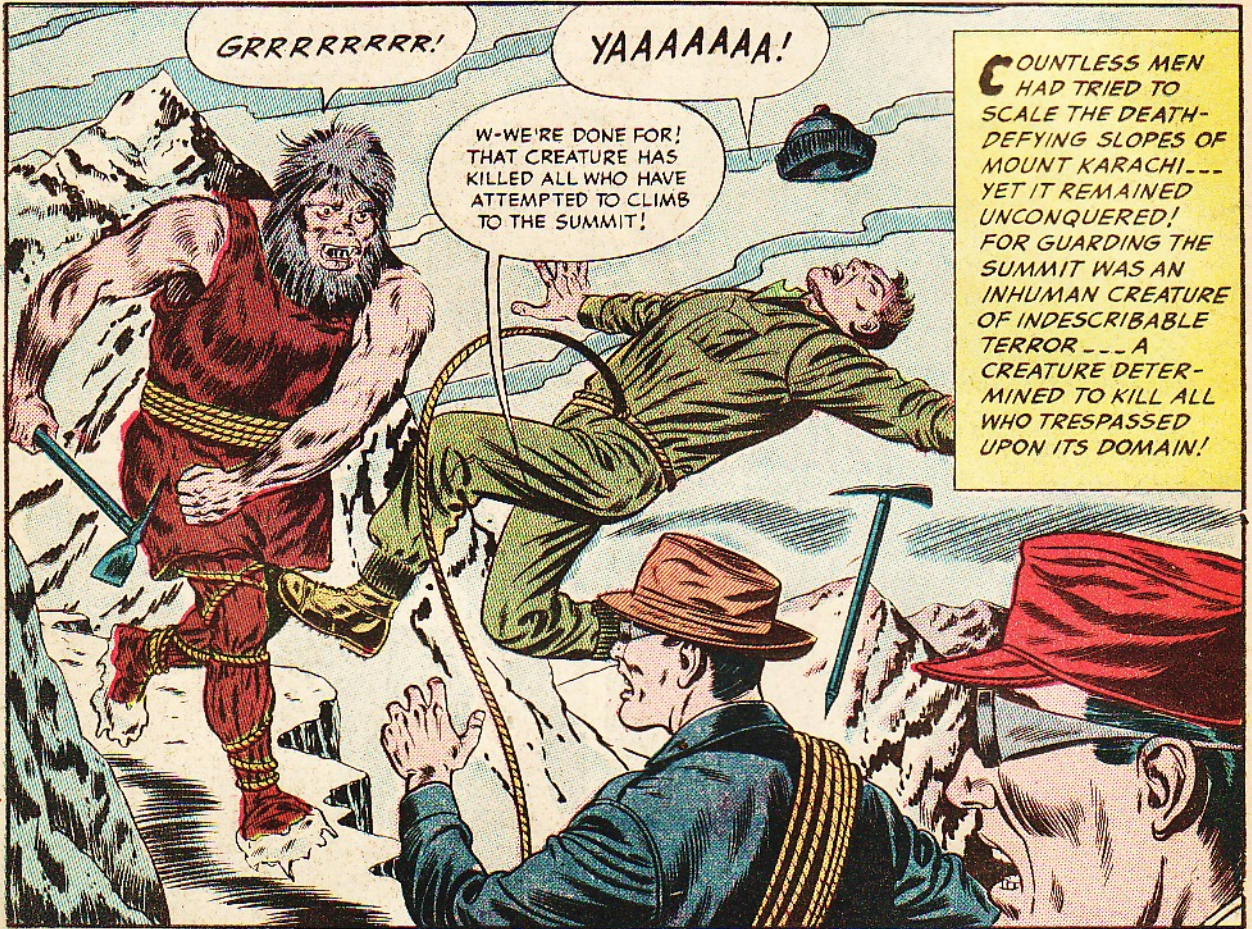
THIS CHARACTER'S LOST HIS MARBLES!

YEAH... I'M AFRAID HE'S GOING TO GET A ONE WAY TICKET TO THE INSANE ASYLUM! POOR GUY!



WEB OF EVIL

The INHUMAN CREATURE



COUNTLESS MEN HAD TRIED TO SCALE THE DEATH-DEFYING SLOPES OF MOUNT KARACHI... YET IT REMAINED UNCONQUERED! FOR GUARDING THE SUMMIT WAS AN INHUMAN CREATURE OF INDESCRIBABLE TERROR... A CREATURE DETERMINED TO KILL ALL WHO TRESPASSED UPON ITS DOMAIN!

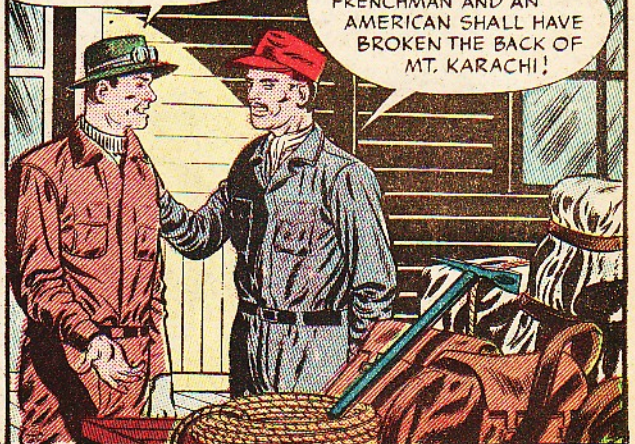
ONE DAY A FIERY EYED MAN STANDS IN THE VILLAGE OF YARKAND AND GAZES AT THE TOWERING HIMALAYAN RANGE BEFORE HIM!

MT. KARACHI, THE HIGHEST UNCONQUERED SUMMIT IN THE UNIVERSE! AH, KARACHI, IT IS MY DESTINY TO FOIL YOUR ROARING AVALANCHES, BREACH YOUR ICY GORGES...

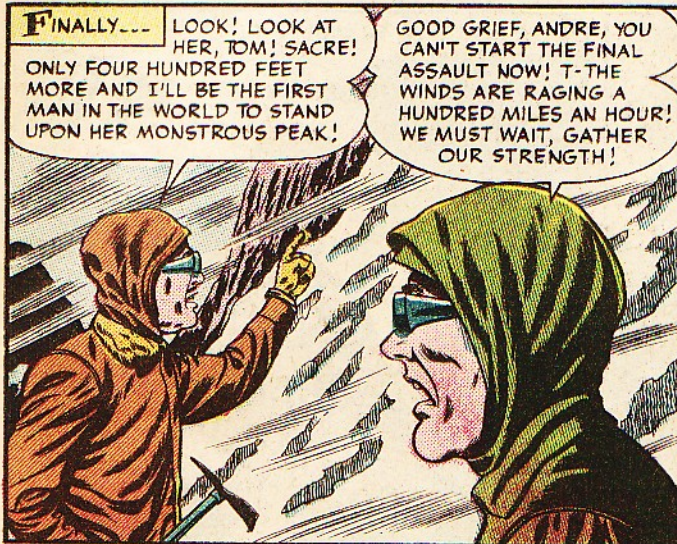
ANDRE!

ALL IS IN READINESS, ANDRE! WE HAVE THE FINEST HEMP ROPES, THE VERY BEST EQUIPMENT EVER MADE FOR AN ASCENT!

BON, MON AMI, TOM! SOON ALL FRANCE, YOUR AMERICA AND THE WORLD WILL KNOW THE IMPOSSIBLE HAS BEEN DONE... A FRENCHMAN AND AN AMERICAN SHALL HAVE BROKEN THE BACK OF MT. KARACHI!

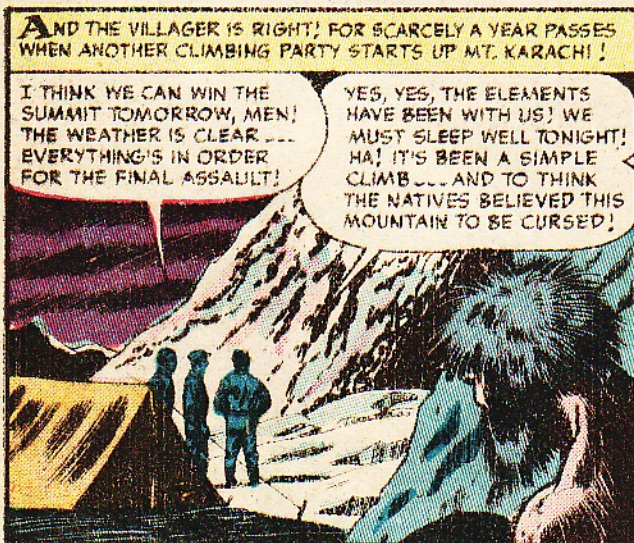


WEB OF EVIL



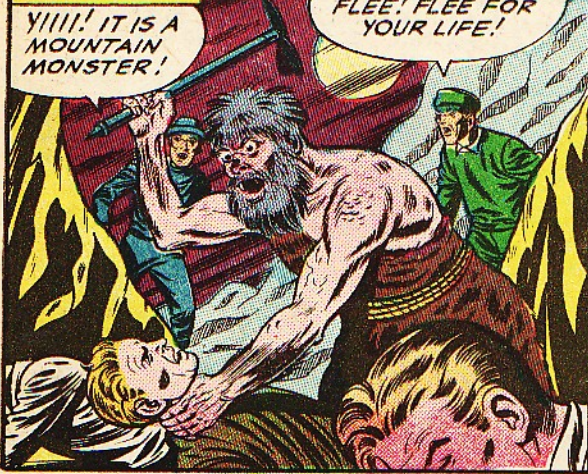
HOUR AFTER HOUR THE FANATICAL FRENCHMAN BUCKS THE RAGING ELEMENTS! HIS FACE STUNG WHITE WITH COLD, HE BATTLES THE MOUNTAIN!





WEB OF EVIL

THE TERRIFIED CRIES BRING NATIVE GUIDES HURRYING TO THE TENT...



YIIII! IT IS A MOUNTAIN MONSTER!

FLEE! FLEE FOR YOUR LIFE!

BUT FEAR FREEZES THE LIMBS OF ONE OF THE HORROR STRICKEN NATIVES AND...



EEE-AH-H-H-H-H!

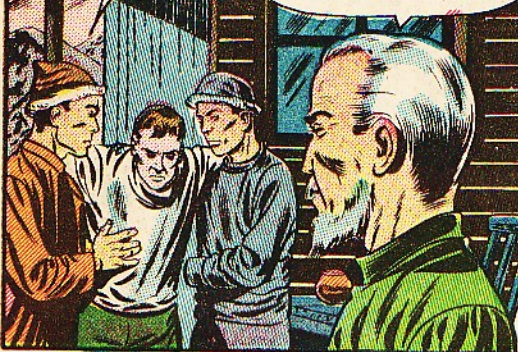
ARRROOWWWW!

LATER...

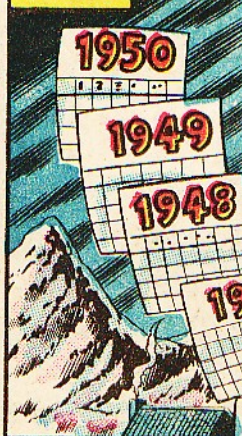
IT WAS A FIEND!

H-HALF HUMAN...HALF ANIMAL! ONLY BY A MIRACLE DID I ESCAPE HIS DEATH GRASP!

SO, AT LONG LAST OUR EYES HAVE SEEN THE CREATURE OF THE MOUNTAIN! NO LONGER CAN THERE BE DOUBT! THE MOUNTAIN IS CURSED AND NO MORE MUST VENTURE THERE!



THUS, THE MONTHS PASS, UNEVENTFULLY IN THE SADDENED VILLAGE!



THEN, EARLY ONE MORNING...

AH, I AM LATE OPENING THE INN! MERCY! T-THE MONSTER!



HELP! HELP! MERCY!

AARRROWWWW!



AHHH-H-H-H!



SOON AFTER, FEAR CHILLS THE HEARTS OF THE VILLAGERS AS THEY WATCH THE THING FROM THE MOUNTAIN RETURN TO HIS SUMMIT LAIR!

W-WHAT CAN WE DO? HE SEEKS TO SLAY US IN OUR OWN VILLAGE!

NO! HE HAS COME ONLY FOR FOOD! WE MUST LEAVE HIM PROVISIONS ON THE MOUNTAIN SLOPE! THEN HE WILL HAVE NO NEED TO ATTACK US AND WE WILL BE SAFE IF WE DO NOT CLIMB HIS MOUNTAIN KINGDOM!



WEB OF EVIL

MONTHS PASS... SEVEN DEATHS AND THE MONSTER OF THE MOUNTAIN HAS DISCOURAGED FURTHER ATTEMPTS TO SCALE KARACHI! THEN, ONE DAY VILLAGERS RUB THEIR EYES IN DISBELIEF AS...

NO! YOU MUST TURN BACK! THE CREATURE KILLS ALL WHO CLIMB THE SLOPES OF KARACHI!

I DO NOT FEAR THE BRUTE! FOR I AM IN GOOD COMPANY...THIS IS JEAN BEAUCHAMP, SON OF THE FAMOUS CLIMBER!

SO...YOU HAVE COME TO FOLLOW IN YOUR FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS!

OUI! IT IS THE LEAST I CAN DO FOR MY DECEASED PAPA! ZE MOUNTAIN TOOK HIS LIFE...BUT HIS SON WILL HAVE VENGEANCE!

PERHAPS... IT WAS NOT THE MOUNTAIN... BUT THE MONSTER WHO KILLED YOUR FATHER!

THEN VENGEANCE WILL BE THAT MUCH SWEETER! THIS I PROMISE...I WILL CONQUER KARACHI IN THE NAME OF BEAUCHAMP... MONSTER OR NO!

WEEKS LATER, AS THE BRAVE EXPEDITION FIGHTS ITS WAY UP THE DEATH DEFYING SOUTH SLOPE OF KARACHI!

AH, ROBERTO... SOON WE WILL ARRIVE AT CAMP SIX! WITH LUCK WE CAN LAUNCH OUR FINAL ASSAULT ON THE PEAK TOMORROW MORNING!

LET US HOPE SO, JEAN! WE MUST KEEP ALERT THE REST OF THE WAY! THE... MONSTER IS SAID TO BE IN THIS AREA!

OUI...IF THERE IS SUCH A THING, ROBERTO! FRANKLY, I BELIEVE THE VILLAGERS' IMAGINATIONS HAVE RUN AWAY WITH THEM!

PERHAPS... BUT WE CANNOT BE SURE!

HALT! THAT SOUND...

LOOK! AN AVALANCHE! WHAT SHALL WE DO?

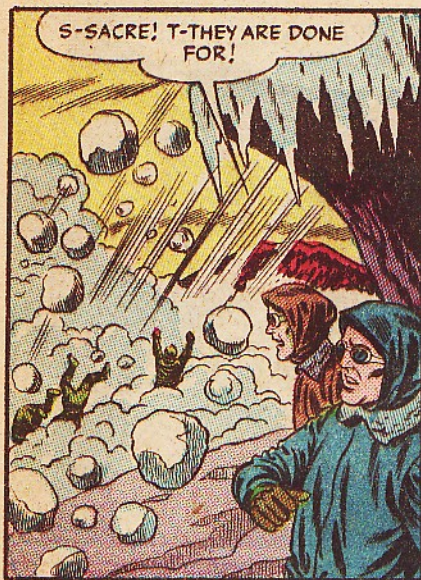
RUMBLE RUMBLE

THAT OVERHANG...IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE! **HURRY!**

I-I DOUBT IF IT WILL SAVE US! HALF THE MOUNTAIN HAS TORN LOOSE!

RUMBLE RUMBLE

WEB OF EVIL



S-SACRE! T-THEY ARE DONE FOR!



ZE THUNDERING AVALANCHE HAS STOPPED! COME, ROBERTO, THE REST ARE FINISHED--- IT IS UP TO US NOW!

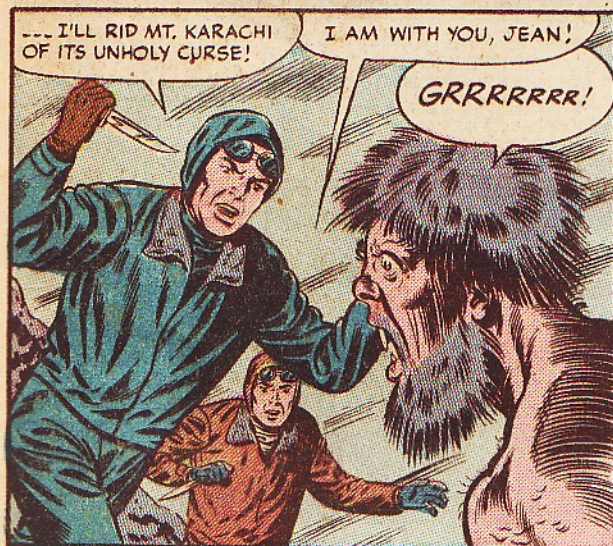
JEAN...TERROR IT IS IN MY HEART! CLIMB CAREFULLY!



SUDDENLY!

YIIII! T-THE MONSTER! GREAT HEAVENS! TURN BACK JEAN! RUN FOR IT!

NON! LONG HAVE I AWAITED TO FACE THE THING THAT MAY HAVE CAUSED MY FATHER'S DEATH! MAN OR DEMON---



--- I'LL RID MT. KARACHI OF ITS UNHOLY CURSE!

I AM WITH YOU, JEAN!

GRRRRRRR!

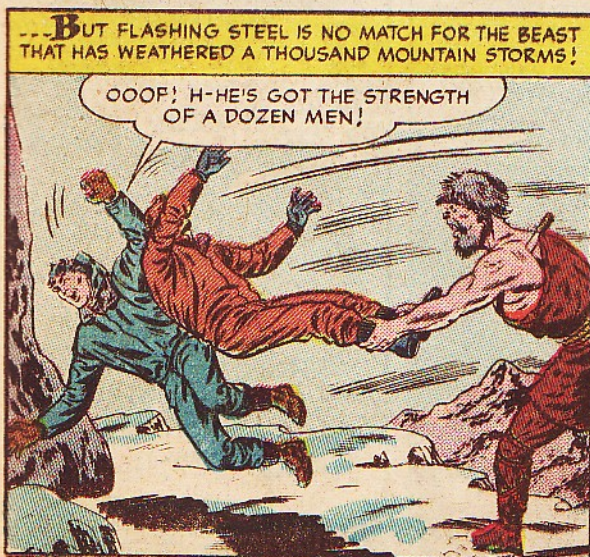


ALONG THE ICE BOUND SLOPE A BIZARRE BATTLE IS WAGED---

AAAAAIIIIIIWWRRRRR!

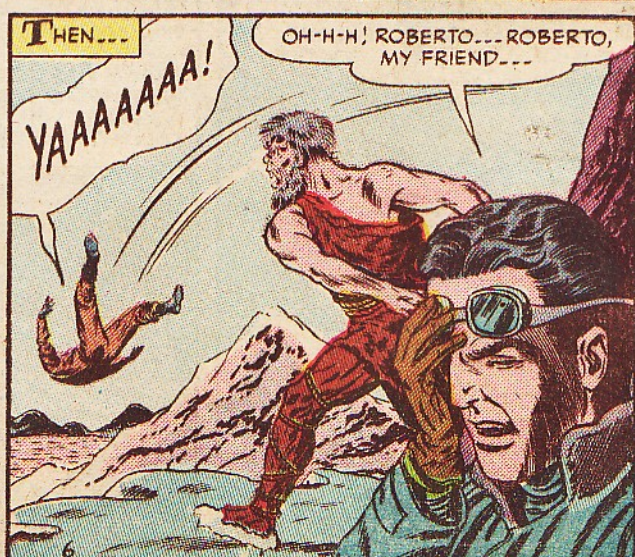
!GASP! !GASP! I-I'M CHOKING, JEAN---

H-HANG ON, ROBERTO! I'LL FREE YOU!



--- BUT FLASHING STEEL IS NO MATCH FOR THE BEAST THAT HAS WEATHERED A THOUSAND MOUNTAIN STORMS!

OOOF! H-HE'S GOT THE STRENGTH OF A DOZEN MEN!



THEN---

YAAAAAAA!

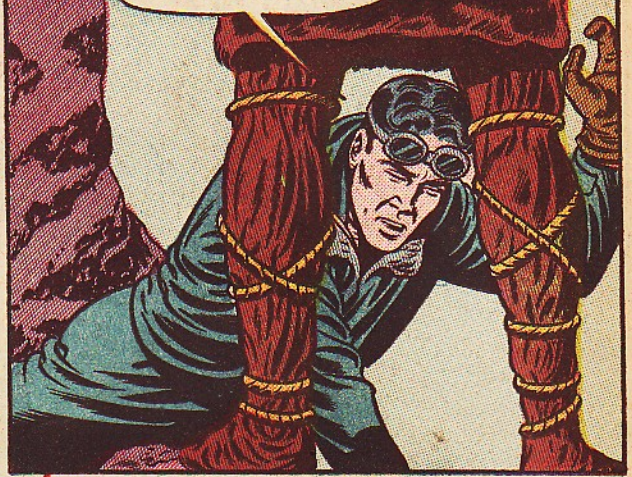
OH-H-H! ROBERTO... ROBERTO, MY FRIEND---

WITH A STRENGTH BORN OF DESPERATION JEAN LAUNCHES HIMSELF AT THE SNOW FIEND'S THROAT!

YOU'LL NOT... KILL THE SON OF... ANDRE BEAUCHAMP! I'LL... HAVE VENGEANCE IN... MY FATHER'S NAME!

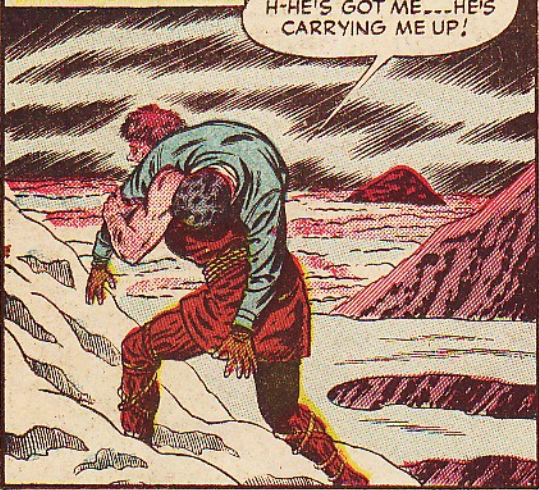


T-TOO WEAK... NO STRENGTH LEFT... I-I'M DONE FOR!



THE MOUNTAIN SWIMS BEFORE JEAN'S EYES... HIS SENSES REEL...

H-HE'S GOT ME... HE'S CARRYING ME UP!



HIGHER, HIGHER THE MOUNTAIN BEAST CARRIES JEAN! FINALLY...

GREAT GLORY! HE'S CARRIED ME TO THE SUMMIT! W-WHO ARE YOU? WHAT ARE YOU? WHY DO YOU KILL AND SLAY TO GUARD THE SUMMIT? WHY DID YOU BRING ME HERE?

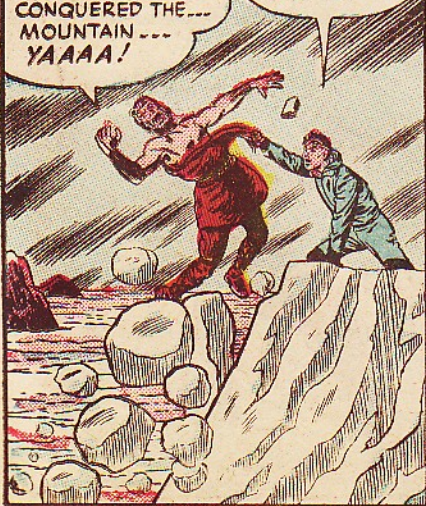
THIS... IS THE... FIRST TIME... I... HAVE... SCALED... THE SUMMIT! THE... AVALANCHE... OPENED THE... PATH...



SUDDENLY...

WE HAVE... CONQUERED THE MOUNTAIN... YAAAA!

HE'S FALLING! LOOK OUT...



THEN, AS THE DUMBFOUNDED JEAN EXAMINES THE MONSTER'S BOOK...

WHAT IS THIS I CAUGHT WHEN TRYING TO GRAB THE MONSTER! IT'S A... DIARY! OH, NO, NO... HOW COULD IT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE?



I survived my fall on the mountain! I vowed that as I had been unable to climb the peak that no one else would ever get the chance! Since then I have killed anyone that thought that they could climb the mountain that I, the great Andre Beauchamp, couldn't over succeed in doing.



Uncle Bernie's FUN SHOP

BUY NOW at our LOW LOW PRICES!

NEW - ELECTRIC REMOTE CONTROL

"Electra-JEEP" "the new 1952 sensation!"

\$3.98 complete

A terrific buy at this price!

RUSH ORDER TODAY!

GOES FORWARD REVERSE LEFT RIGHT
PUSH-BUTTON CONTROL TORQUE STEERING
INDOORS ON RUGS - OUTDOORS ON PAVEMENT
DOORS OVERALL SOLID METAL BASE

Here is the sensational new scale model ELECTRA JEEP that captivates every child! Push the button and off she goes—forward, to the left, to the right, or reverse. Runs outdoors on pavement or indoors on rug. Over 1½ feet long with overall solid metal base and solid rubber wheels, and motor torque steering. Loads of fun for children and grownups alike! Rush your order today! **SEND NO MONEY.** (C.O.D. you pay postage. Remit with order, we pay postage.)

NEW AMAZING! Portable WALL SHOWER

Just like a Built-in Shower!

- NO-SPLASH SHAMPOO SPRAY • ATTACHES TO ANY SURFACE
- NO INSTALLATION NECESSARY • FITS ALL SIZE FAUCETS

NOW—enjoy the advantages of a BUILT-IN SHOWER with this amazing, new PORTABLE COMBINATION SHOWER-MASSAGE-SPRAYER. Attaches easily and securely to any surface, any height. Adjustable rustproof-swivel head has 144 highest quality rubber bristles for vigorous massage. Powerful suction cup (will not mar walls) detaches instantly for use as no-splash shampoo spray. Complete with 3½ ft. heavy rubber tubing that fits any size faucet. **SEND NO MONEY.** (C.O.D. you pay postage. Remit with order, we pay postage.)

only \$2.98

SHAMPOO SPRAY MASSAGE BRUSH

AT ANY HEIGHT

AMAZING • EXCITING • IT'S TELEVIEW!

SUPER DELUXE ELECTRIC MOVIE PROJECTOR

SHOWS REAL MOVIES

- A BIG SHOW "Little Red Riding Hood"
- A REAL PROJECTOR! Bright Red Plastic!
- A COLORFUL THEATRE with Screen!
- COMPLETELY SAFE! Any Child Can Operate

EXTRA FILM 3 FILMS \$1.00 ONLY

SNOW WHITE THE OWL AND THE PUSSY CAT JINGLE BELLS THREE LITTLE PIGS JACK AND JILL RIP VAN WINKLE TOM THUMB ROBINSON CRUSOE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT WINKIN WILLIE

Imagine Only \$2.98 COMPLETE. Projector, One-film and Screen.

Now any child can show the most exciting movies at home with this streamlined TELEVIEW Projector, complete with colorful theatre and screen. The bright red plastic projector is safe and simple to operate—nothing to get out of order. Think of the fun of watching your favorite come to life on the theatre screen! This Super-Deluxe Projector will mean big movie parties for friends and family. You boys and girls will be fascinated with the Big Movie Shows, and running movies all by yourself is the greatest treat of them all! **SEND NO MONEY.** Remit with order and we pay postage or C.O.D. plus postage.

NEW! AMAZING!

FREE HAIR WAVE KIT!

HELLO! I'm RITA!
I drink I wet I sleep and you can WAVE MY HAIR!

I have RUBBER WONDERSKIN!

TERRIFIC VALUE! only \$3.98 complete

SENSATIONAL DRINK AND WET DOLL in washable rubber WONDERSKIN with life-like hair and realistic hair-wave kit complete with . . . rubber curlers, plastic curlers, . . . rubber waving bands, . . . waving end papers, plastic comb and . . . bottle of doll hair lotion. ADORABLE RITA, 11 inches tall, has sparkling blue eyes that open and close—she drinks from her bottle with rubber nipple (included) and then wets her diaper. You can bathe her—move her cuddly arms, legs and head—make her stand, walk and sleep.

RUSH YOUR ORDER TODAY!

SEND COUPON!

NOVELTY MART, Dept Q 14
59 East 8th Street, New York 3, N. Y.

Gentlemen: Please send me the following:
Enclosed find: ☐ Check on M.O. ☐ C.O.D. plus postage.

<input type="checkbox"/> Electric Jeep...\$3.98	<input type="checkbox"/> Rita\$3.98
<input type="checkbox"/> T. V. Projector \$2.98 (3 Films \$1.00)	<input type="checkbox"/> Wall Shower \$2.98

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

SEND NO MONEY C.O.D. you pay postage and handling charges. Remit with order we pay postage.

NOVELTY MART 59 East 8th Street, Dept Q 14 New York 3, N. Y.

DEAD MAN'S RETURN

RITA MANSON was a weak, shallow, ugly young woman who worked for a low wage as a companion to a woman of 60, who was invalided because of a severe heart condition. Since opposites attract, Rita was desperately attracted to Mrs. Gallter's son, Don, a wastrel and sponger, cruel, selfish, a cheat who was ever on the alert to do the world in the eye. Since Rita was miserably jealous because of Don's attentions to a cheap night club dancer, she was despairing enough to try *anything*. After all, Don had made her situation very clear. "Lily may be cheap and vulgar," said Don, "but I *like* women with vulgar physical attraction, unless of course, the attraction is *money*. Money is something I can't resist at all!"

Now Rita had no money to speak of. As little money, in fact, as she had beauty, which was nil. But she could *get* money. Mrs. Gallter owned an old gold mining property out west which everybody believed to be exhausted and worthless. But one day, she had called Rita into her bedroom after one of her more serious heart attacks and told her she'd received a letter from George, the old caretaker of the mine. "George discovered a new vein in the mine. The mine is worth millions! But nobody knows it except George, I, and you, Rita." Mrs. Gallter explained that the mine would some day be Rita's, since Rita had always acted toward her like a daughter. "My son, Don, is a worthless, despicable person whom I hate as much as he hates me," she added. "On my death, he will receive nothing from me—absolutely nothing!" Then Mrs. Gallter extracted from her "true child" a promise that she would never leave her.

Rita cunningly agreed—and with a burst of exaltation she prepared a campaign to receive her inheritance a bit sooner than Providence intended. She found a book about radio and studied it. One night, while Mrs. Gallter was listening to the radio, her favorite pastime, Rita cut in on the regular broadcast from a microphone upstairs. She told the woman that she was Mr. Gallter calling to his wife from the spirit world, and she should be prepared to leave for the spirit world at once. Although Mrs. Gallter needed medical attention to recover from the shock of this announcement, she was not unhappy, for she loved her late husband very dearly, and was eagerly awaiting the day she would again be by his side. Rita found a picture of the departed gentleman and one night she pretended to see his ghostly essence wandering around the grounds. She even said she saw him peering in at the window. Her description of him coincided with Mrs. Gallter's memories, and Mrs. Gallter was more positive than ever that her husband had come from the spirit world to take her. When another broadcast over the radio informed her

that he would come for her the following Saturday night at 10 P.M., she wouldn't even hear of Rita being in the house. She sat alone and waited for her husband's appearance.

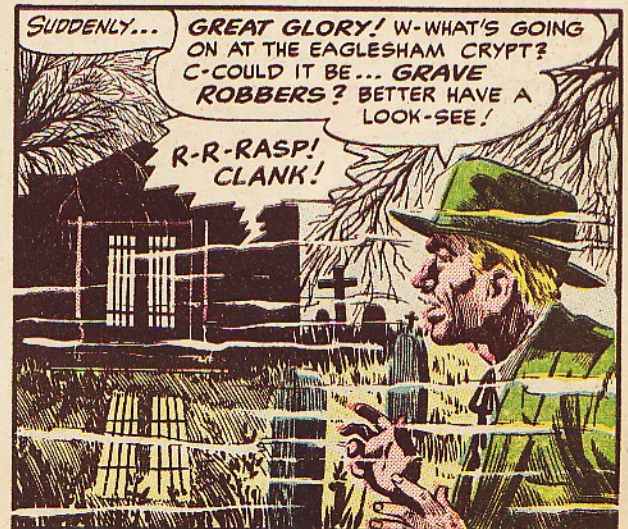
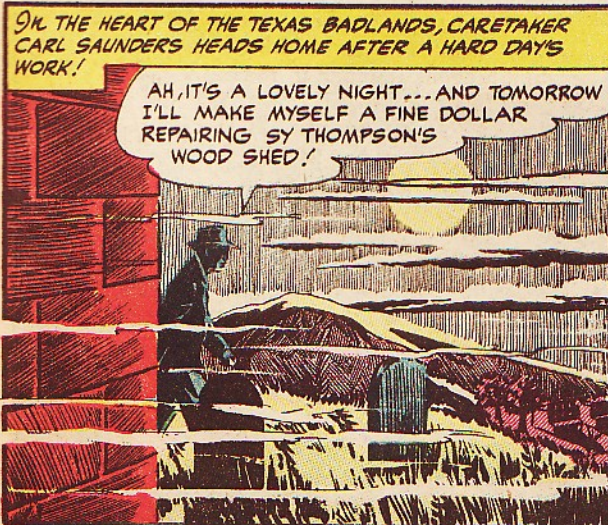
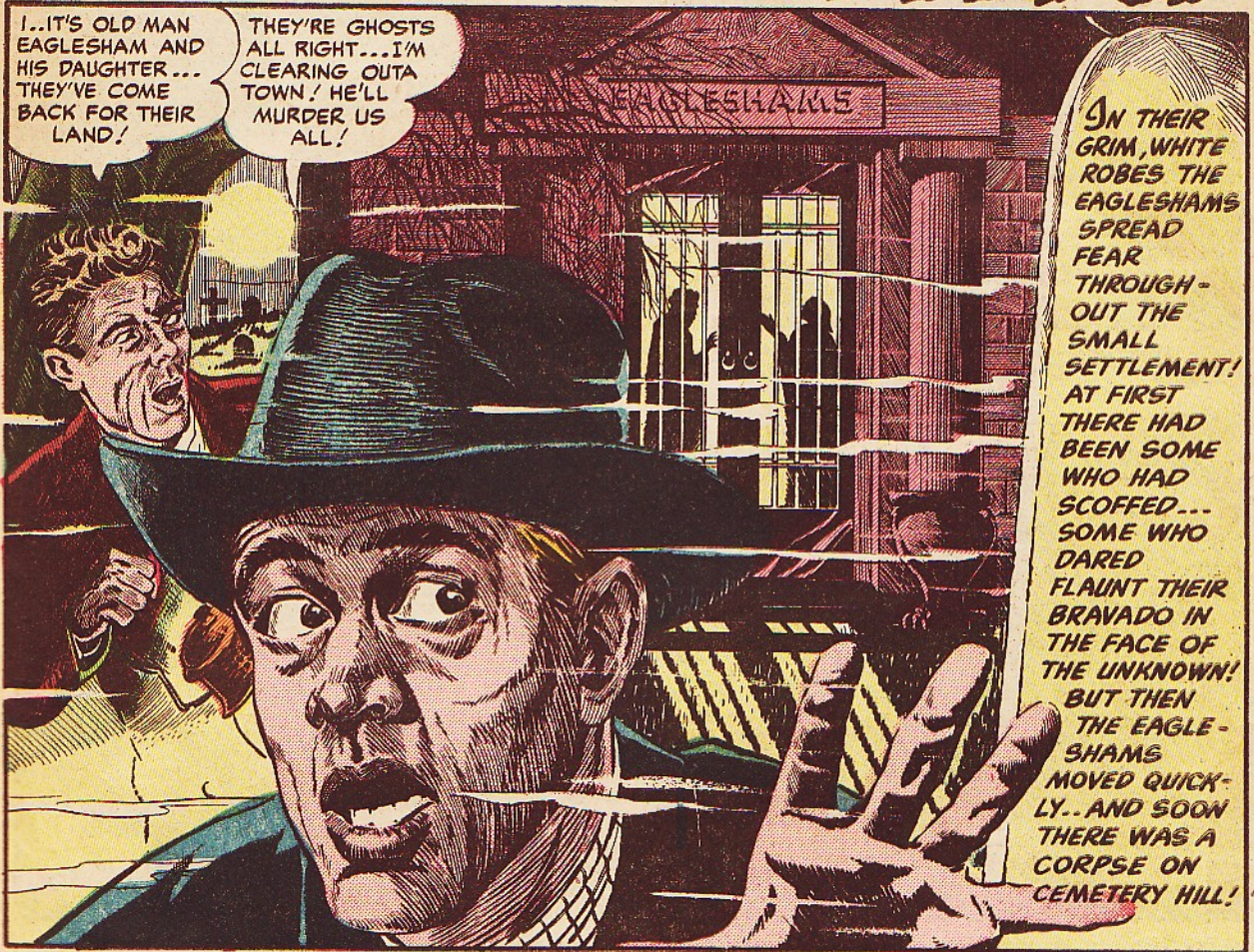
Rita, meanwhile dressed herself in some of Mr. Gallter's clothing which she found in an attic trunk, and replete with make-up and mustache, entered the living room at the stroke of 10. Mrs. Gallter screamed with excitement and dropped dead. Two weeks later, Rita inherited the "worthless" gold mine. Two weeks after that, she was married to Don Gallter, who now saw in homely Rita a new and radiant, golden beauty.

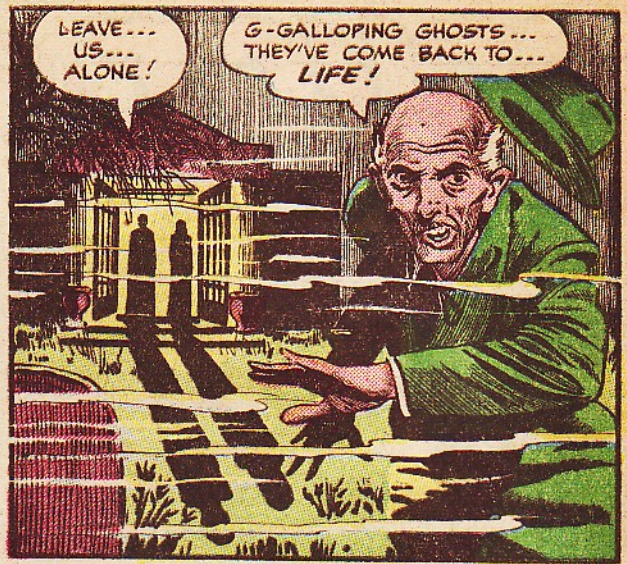
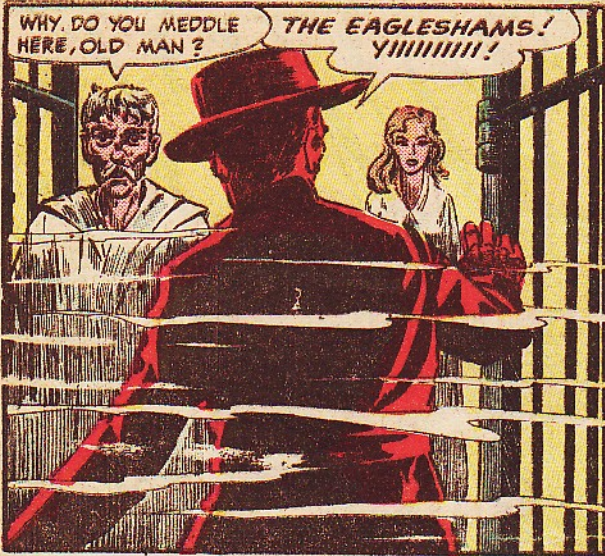
And what better place could they go for a honeymoon than to the old mining property? Accordingly, they arrived one dark night at the old Gallter Mine. George, the caretaker, knew and detested Don Gallter, as did everybody but Rita. He explained reluctantly to the honeymoon couple that one day, months ago, he had made a semi-annual tour of the shaft and found that one wall had crumpled . . . and he found this vein of gold which he had reported to Mrs. Gallter. Don wanted to see the gold that night. George, who was laid up with a severe cold, told him to wait a few days till he could escort him around. The mine was treacherous. Cave-ins were common. But Don was too impatient. So he took a lantern and his wife's hand and they went into the mine alone.

They found the gold and Don went into ecstasy. He thought about the trick Rita and he had played upon his mother and he burst into laughter. "The old fool—she must be rolling in her grave now to think *I've* got this fortune! Ha! Ha! Ha!" Because she thought it would please him, Rita laughed too. They laughed till the tears came into their eyes and then they stopped. But the laughing went on. In fact, it grew *louder*. They looked at each other in dismay. Who could be laughing? The laughter sounded like hideous thunder in the cavern. The walls began to tremble. Rocks dropped from the ceilings. Still the laughter increased. It seemed to come from the very entrance to the cavern. They turned and saw two figures there, roaring in mirth. One figure looked decayed and grey and the bones stuck out of his suit. The other figure, dressed in white, shrieked with mirth. Rita recognized her instantly. "It's y-your MOTHER!" she screamed. Don trembled as he recognized the rotted corpse at her side. "The other one's m-my FATHER!" The ghosts were too busy laughing to speak. Their laughter made the walls cave in and the roof to fall. Screams mingled with the laughter as the mountain descended on the honeymoon couple. When the screams stopped, all you could hear was hideous laughter echoing through the tomb of two people who had found their heart's desires—and were **BURIED** with them!

WEB OF EVIL

CRYPT OF THE LIVING





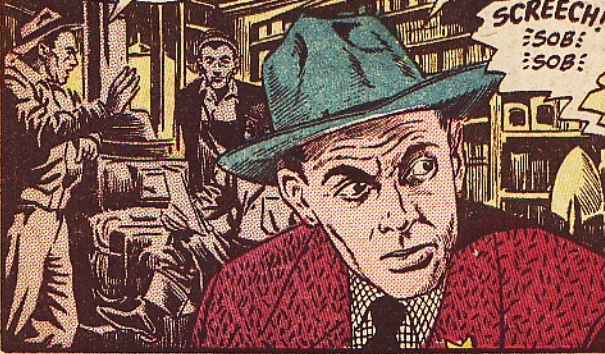
NEXT EVENING, THE CHUCKLES OVER POP SANDER'S "VISION" HAVE BARELY SUBSIDED WHEN...

HEH, HEH! WONDER IF OLD POP IS GONNA CUT THROUGH THE CEMETERY AGAIN TONIGHT? BOY, HE'S SURE GETTIN' CRAZY!

WHAT'S THAT?

TOURISTS... SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH THEM!

SCREECH!
SOB!
SOB!



THUNDERATION! WHAT'S WRONG, STRANGER?

SOB!
SOB!
IT WAS TERRIBLE!

M-MY WIFE'S HAD A SHOCK! S-SHE SAW SOME HIDEOUS THING UP IN THAT CEMETERY CRYPT! WE WERE JUST PASSING BY LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO STAY!



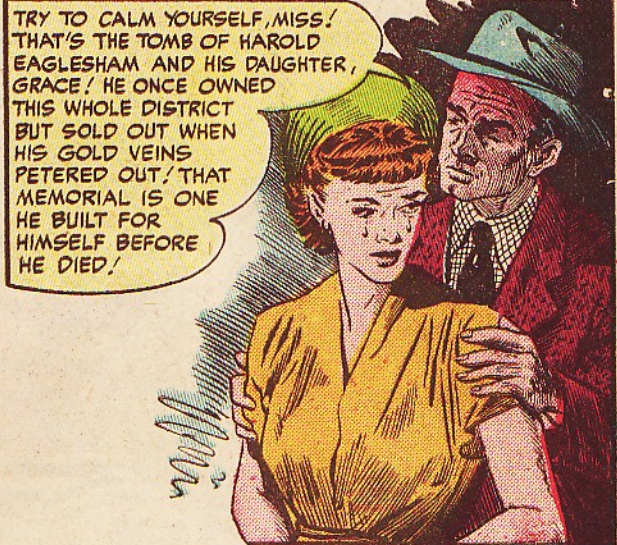
A-AN OLD MAN...AND A GIRL... THEY LOOKED LIKE GHOSTS! I SAW THEM WALK OUT OF THE TOMB ALL DRESSED IN WHITE! WHO ARE THEY?

GREAT HANNAH... YOU TOO!

HMMM!



TRY TO CALM YOURSELF, MISS! THAT'S THE TOMB OF HAROLD EAGLESHAM AND HIS DAUGHTER, GRACE! HE ONCE OWNED THIS WHOLE DISTRICT BUT SOLD OUT WHEN HIS GOLD VEINS PETERED OUT! THAT MEMORIAL IS ONE HE BUILT FOR HIMSELF BEFORE HE DIED!



HANSON, PUT THESE TWO IN THE GUEST COTTAGE! EVERYBODY GET YOUR GUNS AND LANTERNS! MAYBE SOMETHING FISHY IS GOING ON UP THERE! ARE YOU WITH ME, MEN?

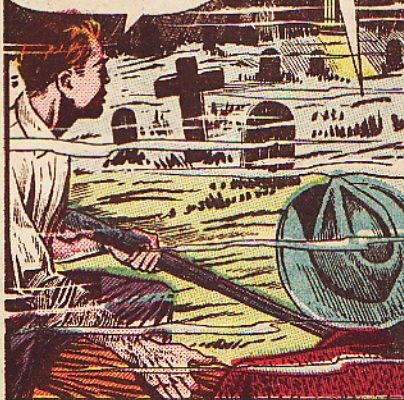
SURE THING, PETERS! EVERYBODY HOME AND GET THEIR GUNS!



LATER, A TENSE GROUP OF MEN CREEP THROUGH THE CEMETERY! ABRUPTLY, THEIR HEARTS ARE CHILLED AS...

L-LOOK! LIGHTS...COMING FROM THE TOMB!

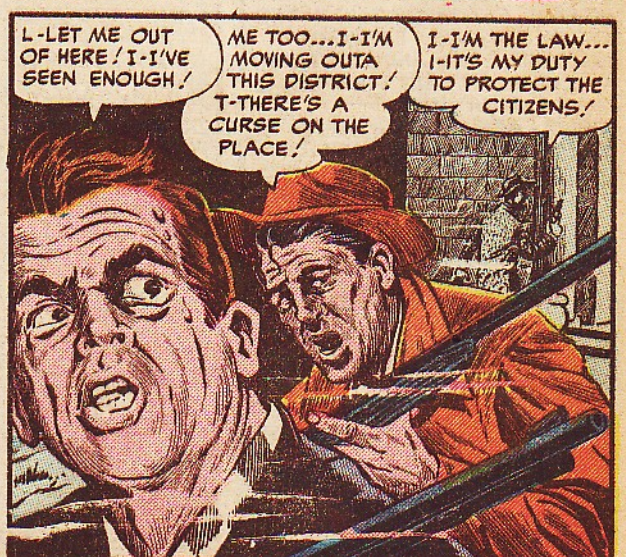
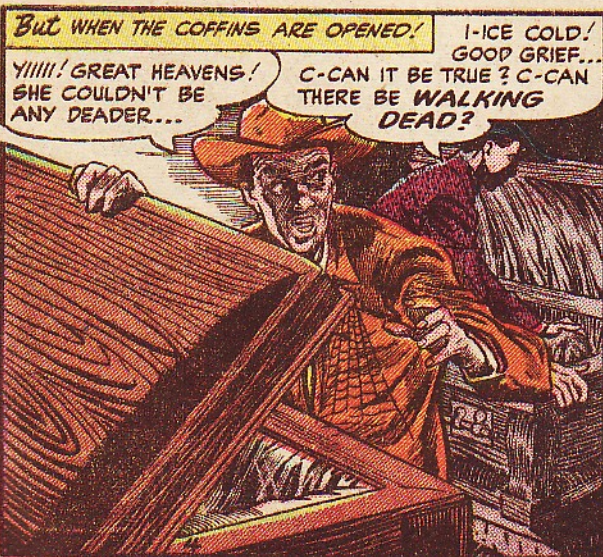
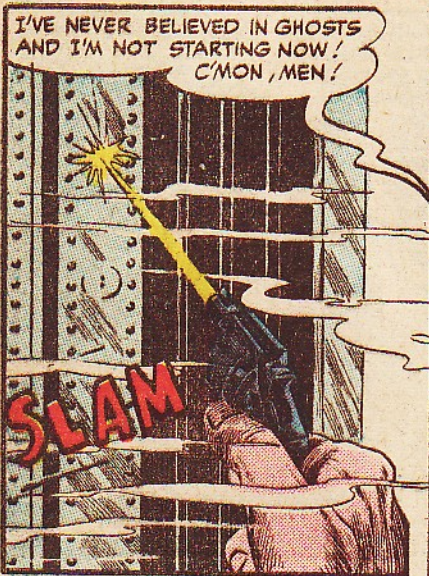
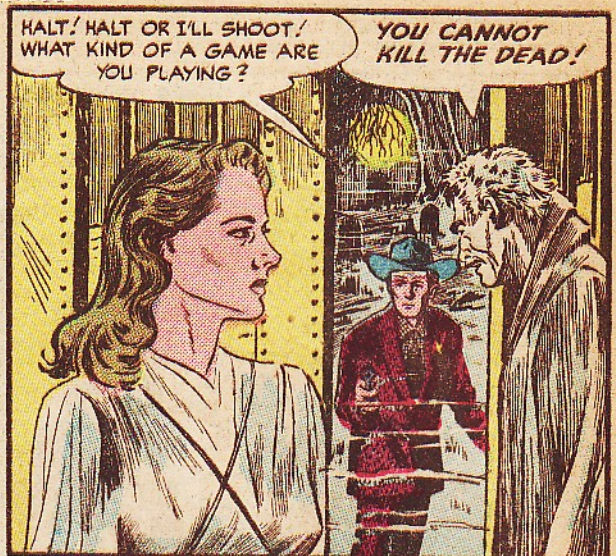
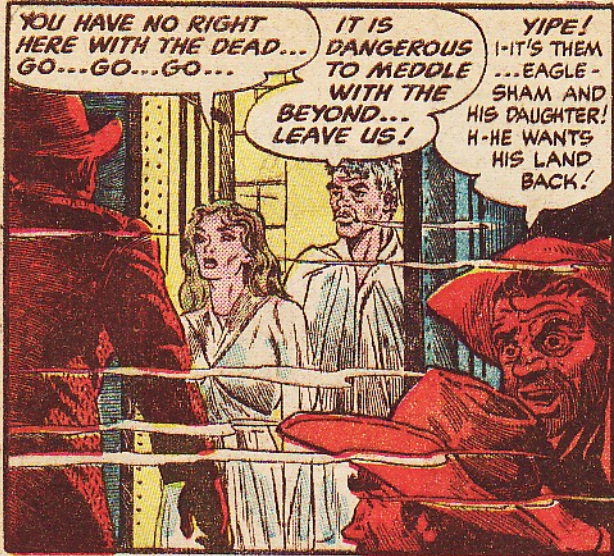
STEADY, MEN!

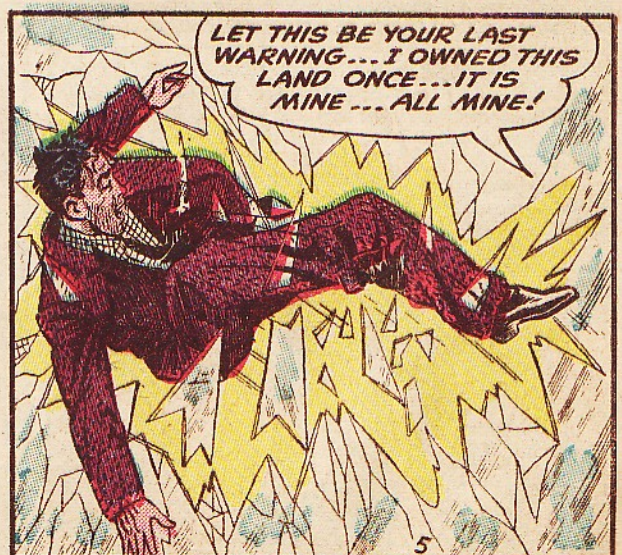
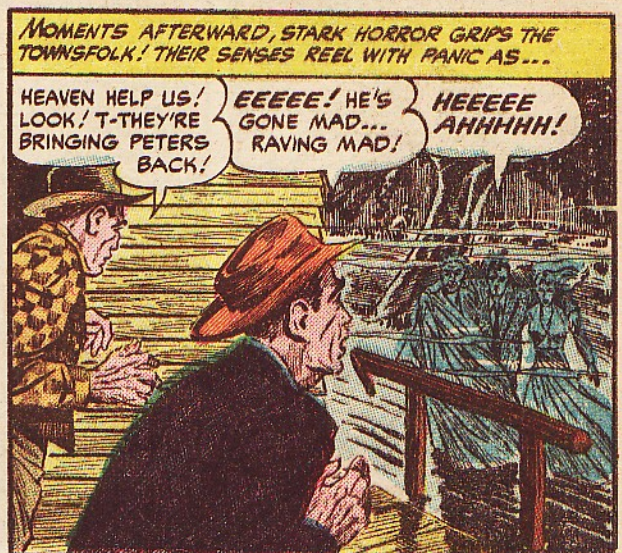
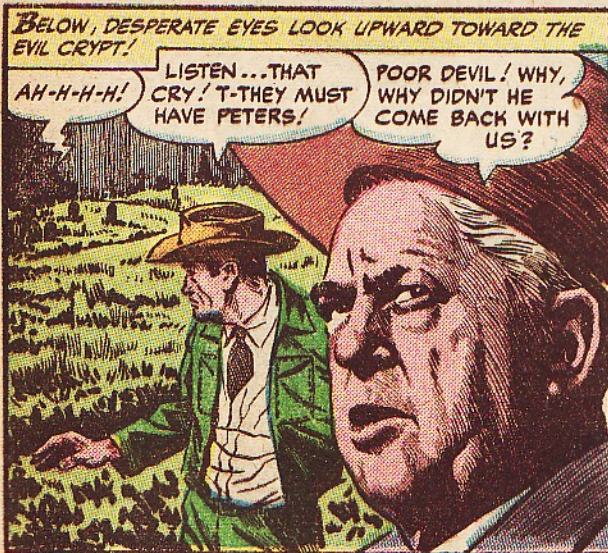
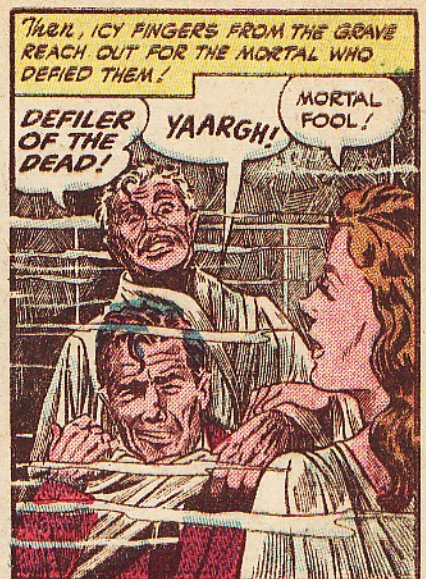


GREAT SCOTT! IT'S POP SANDERS... SOMEBODY'S MURDERED HIM!

WE WARNED HIM TO LEAVE US ALONE...THIS IS OUR WORLD...I HAVE COME BACK TO CLAIM MY LAND!







THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE NORMAL AGAIN! NOW, PETERS, NOW WILL YOU STOP FIGHTING THE SUPERNATURAL! THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO... OUR ONLY CHOICE IS TO TAKE OUR FAMILIES AND MOVE FURTHER INTO THE HILLS!

I-I WAS OVERCOME... M-MY MIND SEEMED TO SNAP! M-MY ARM...

YOU'RE RIGHT! NONE OF US CAN FIGHT THIS HIDEOUS THING FROM THE BEYOND... BUT IT WILL TAKE US TIME TO PACK AND MOVE! I-I MUST BE SURE THEY DON'T HARM US! IT.. IS MY DUTY TO TELL THEM... WE ARE LEAVING! I'LL SPEAK TO THEM IN THEIR COFFINS!

T-THAT'S RIGHT! YOU HEARD HIM... HE STILL THINKS THIS IS HIS LAND! LET HIM HAVE IT... IT'S NO GOOD ANYWAY!

QUICKLY! LET'S GO!

LATER, WHEN PETER HAS DRESSED...

NOBODY... CAN FIGHT THE DEAD!

THE OTHERS ENTER THE CRYPT...

WHA...? THUNDERATION, PETERS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I'M NAILING UP THE COFFINS, MEN! JUST SIT DOWN AND WAIT... I'M GAMBLING THERE'LL BE SOME ACTION HERE SOON!

FIVE...TEN...TWENTY MINUTES PASS! THEN...

W-WHAT IS IT? PETERS?

TEAR OPEN THAT OTHER COFFIN! MY TRICK WORKED! TWO LIVING PEOPLE ARE INSIDE THERE! THEY'RE... SUFFOCATING!

HELP! HELP! LET US OUT!

BAM BAM

QUICKLY, THE COFFINS ARE OPENED AND...

GREAT SUFFERING FIREBALLS! I-IT'S THE YOUNG TOUR-IST COUPLE!

YES, THEY'RE OUR... **WALKING DEAD!** THEY DISGUISED THEMSELVES AS THE CORPSES TO FRIGHTEN US OFF OUR LAND! I TRICKED THEM INTO GETTING BACK IN THE COFFIN! I KNEW THEY WOULD GET IN THE COFFINS THINKING I WAS GOING TO TALK TO THE CORPSES!

YOU SEE, THESE SCRATCHES AND A HYPODERMIC PUNCTURE ON MY ARM FIRST WARNED ME! THE HYPO COULD ACCOUNT FOR MY MADNESS... AND A DRUG OF SOME SORT INJECTED IN ME, AND NO DEAD WOMAN WOULD LEAVE A SCRATCH! I REALIZED A HUMAN ELEMENT WAS BEHIND THIS!

THE ACTUAL DEAD BODIES WERE THERE WHEN WE FIRST LOOKED IN THE COFFIN! SHE'S MR. EAGLESHAM'S REMAINING DAUGHTER... WE HAD DISCOVERED THERE WAS URANIUM HERE! WE HOPED TO BUY BACK HIS LAND CHEAP BY FRIGHTENING YOU OFF!

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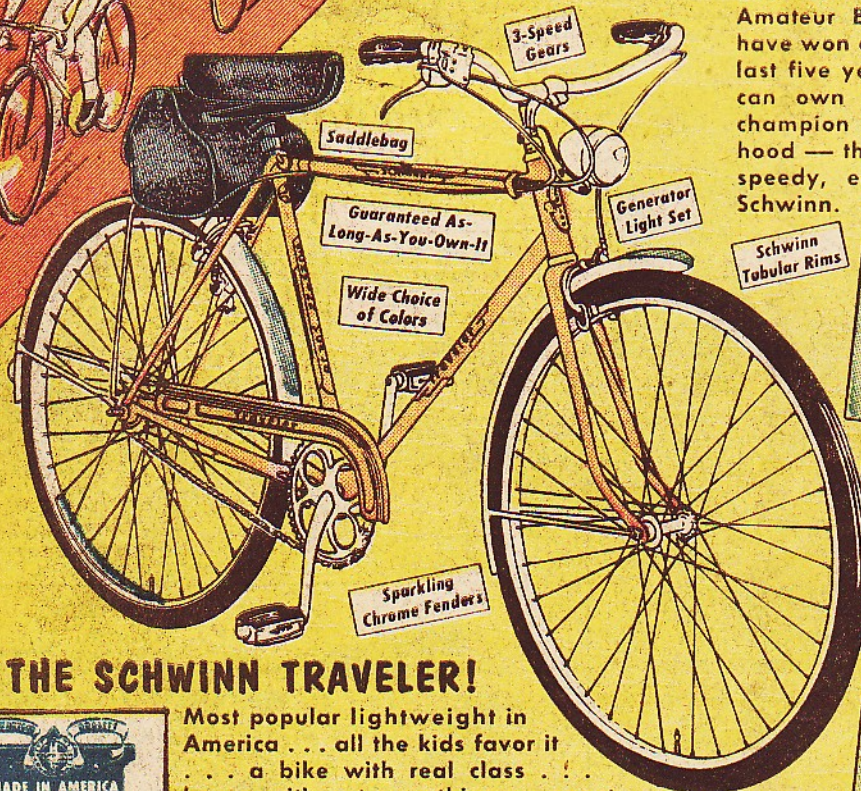
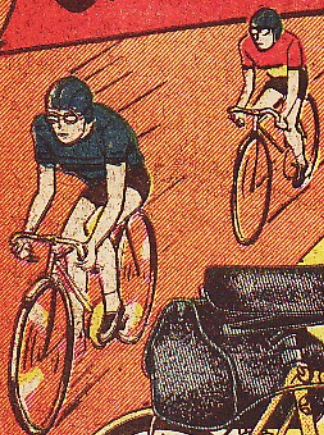
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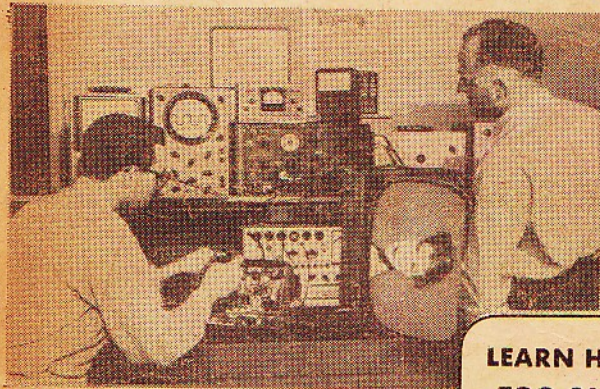
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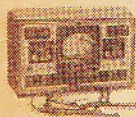
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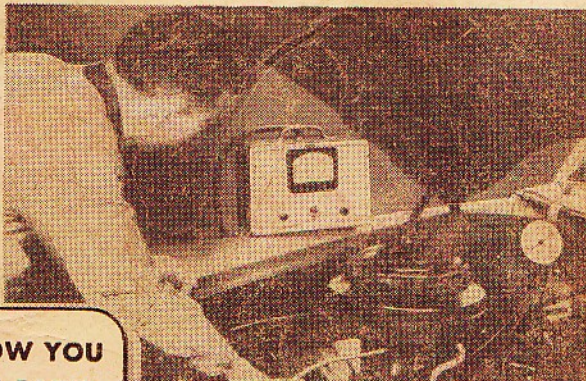
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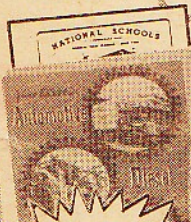
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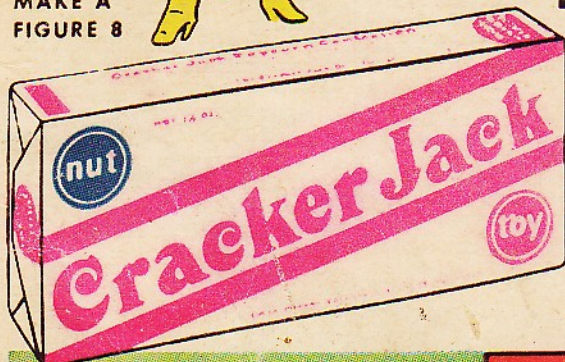
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